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Rasmuson brings olympic class

Swedish swimmer

By **PAUL McGRATH**
Battalion Sports Writer

You could say that Svante Rasmuson came to Texas A&M because Alabama didn't want him. But it would be stretching the truth a little.

Rasmuson joins Coach Dennis Fosdick's swim team as a freshman just off a plane from Sweden.

He is just one of several talented newcomers expected to rejuvenate the Aggie swim team after a disappointing 1974 season.

Rasmuson is basically a sprinter in the 100, 200 and 500-yard freestyle categories. He is currently ranked number one in Sweden and is a candidate for the Swedish Olympic team.

How the talented Rasmuson was obtained by the Aggies is almost a story in itself. He was scouted by Alabama swim coach Don Gambriel in the 1973 World Championships in Europe. Gambriel asked Rasmuson to come across the Atlantic to swim for the Crimson Tide (with a

name like that a school has to have good swimmers).

However, Rasmuson injured his back and his departure for the States was delayed a year. He spent his time recuperating while also serving in the military.

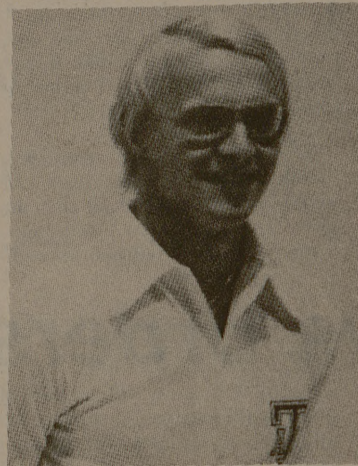
After recovering, he was again contacted by Gambriel. This time the news was not so cheery as Rasmuson learned he would not be able to receive a scholarship.

Gambriel informed Fosdick about his prospect and said to the effect that Fosdick had better grab him before it was too late because he (Gambriel) did not want Rasmuson swimming against him with some other Southeast Conference school.

The Aggie coach wrote the young Swede last spring and later signed him to a scholarship.

Rasmuson says, "I don't think I could have had it better anywhere else. The dorm and the food is fantastic."

"Usually in Sweden we workout three times a week and I used to



Svante Rasmuson

have to ride in the snow to the pool. Here we work everyday in the morning and afternoon. I really enjoy the workouts, I think the running and weightlifting will really help me.

"In Sweden we don't have school

relay a week before school starts. This is the first time I've swam for a school team."

Rasmuson is not playing on the water polo team, but is instead trying to get a sore shoulder back in shape. "I wish I could play water polo better because I think it is a good way of getting stronger," he said.

His injury stems from an earlier injury to his back. Before, the pain was also in his shoulder and a mystery to most doctors. Finally, a chiropractor analyzed his problem and "cured" him in three days. After his recovery he moved from the number seven to the number one freestyler in Sweden.

He began his swimming career as a backstroker and then transformed into a freestyler. "It's so much easier to go somewhere if you're a freestyler and place fifth or sixth in the nation (Sweden)," Rasmuson said.

His best mark for the 100 butterfly is 54.17 seconds, although he turned in a 53.67 leg in a medley

relay a week before school starts. This is the first time I've swam for a school team."

Rasmuson swam in the Swedish Nationals at the beginning of August and placed second in the 100 and fourth in the 200 free. Two weeks later he was in Moscow for the Europe Cup competition. After he became too ill to participate, he traveled to the Scandinavian Championships in Finland, again was second in the 100. But in the medley relay the Swedes tied their national record with Rasmuson doing his best relay leg.

Rasmuson is from what he calls a small town (Uma, population 75,000, and is "still learning the competition swimming."

He had adapted himself to American culture but admits he has some problems with the language. Says Rasmuson, "I hope I can catch up with the others soon."

If Coach Fosdick can help his way, it will soon be the others looking to catch up with Rasmuson.

Aggies made 4-point favorite over LSU UT, BU picked too, Hogs not so lucky

By **DENNE H. FREEMAN**
Associated Press

The Southwest Conference's six unbeaten teams place their perfect records on the line Saturday with the oddsmakers rating only Arkansas as an underdog.

The Razorbacks, who whipped Air Force 35-0 last week, tackle the sizeable chore of playing Oklahoma State in Stillwater. Oklahoma State has beaten Arkansas 26-7 and 38-6 the last two times the teams have met.

Arkansas is a one-point underdog despite a high-octane backfield featuring quarterback Mark Miller, and running backs Ike Forte and

Jerry Eckwood — all three 100 yards plus gainers last week.

Rice, which shocked Houston 24-7 last week, and Vanderbilt, a 17-7 winner over Chattanooga, are rated even for their clash in Houston. Vanderbilt holds an 8-7-1 all-time edge against Southwest Conference teams.

Texas was a 19-point choice over Washington in an afternoon game at Seattle. The Longhorns strapped Colorado State last week while Washington was tumbling to Arizona State.

The preseason SWC favorite Texas Aggies take on Louisiana State in the Bengal Tiger's lair at

Baton Rouge with the experts giving the Aggies, who lead the nation in defense, a four-point edge.

Baylor's well-rested Bears could be facing a furious Auburn team in Waco. Hoping to send retiring coach Ralph Shug Jordan off in

Intramurals

FLAG FOOTBALL
Military: C-2 vs S-2, 8-6; E-2 vs K-2, 62-0; N-1 vs H-2, 14-12;
Fish: C-1 vs D-1, 1-0; F-1 vs Sq. 12, 20-0; Sq. 15 vs Sq. 1, 0-1; N-1 vs W-Band, 0-12; L-2 vs Sq. 3, 6-14; Sq. 9 vs K-1, 6-0; S-2 vs E-2, 0-20.
Independent: Rebels vs IEEE, 21-6; Oak Forest vs Angus, 21-20; Briarwood East vs Parkway, 0-1; Gator Hawks vs 4F's, 37-0; Geology Grads. vs Vet I, 0-28.

Women: Zeta Tau Alpha vs P. E. Majors, 0-28; Hughes II vs Colonels, 0-1; W-I (Mil.) vs Country Place, 0-12; W-1 (Fish) vs Spence, 6-7.
Co-Rec: Slip Slides vs Plantation Oaks; 20-12; Tanglewood vs BSU, 1-0.

TODAY'S GAMES
Military: A-1 vs Sq.-6, 5-10; D-1; W-Band vs Sq. 8, 6-10; ETV: Sq.-10 vs D-1, 5-10; D-3; B-1 vs Sq.-3, 5-10; D-4; F-2 vs Sq.-9, 5-10; D-5; D-2 vs Sq. 13, 5-10; D-6; F-1 vs M-1, 5-10, ETV.
Civilian: Aston Hall vs Schumacher, 6-10; D-1; Crocker vs Milner, 6-10; D-2; Utay vs Hotard, 6-10; D-3; Moore Hall vs Dunn No. 1, 6-10; D-4; Hart vs Moses, 6-10; D-5; Puryear vs McInnis, 6-10; D-6; Law vs Walton, 6-10; K-1; Davis Gary vs Leggett, 6-10; K-2.
Recreation: Crocker vs Ag. Eco., 5-10; D-2; Flounders vs Dunn No. 2, 5-10, K-2.
Women: BSU No. 1 vs Mosher, 6-10; H-1; BAC vs Scandia No. 1, 6-10; H-2; BSU No. 2 vs Fowler, 5-10; H-1; Hughes I vs Ding-A-Ling, 5-10; H-2; Plantation Oaks vs Keathley, 5-10, K-1.

grand style, Auburn was shocked 31-20 last week by Memphis State.

Baylor, which will have second-string quarterback Charlie Parker replacing injured Mark Jackson, ripped Mississippi 20-1 in the Bears' opener Sept. 6. Nevertheless, Baylor is a seven-point pick.

Texas Tech and its new coach Steve Sloan take on pesky New Mexico at Lubbock and the Red Raiders are seven-point favorites over the Lobos.

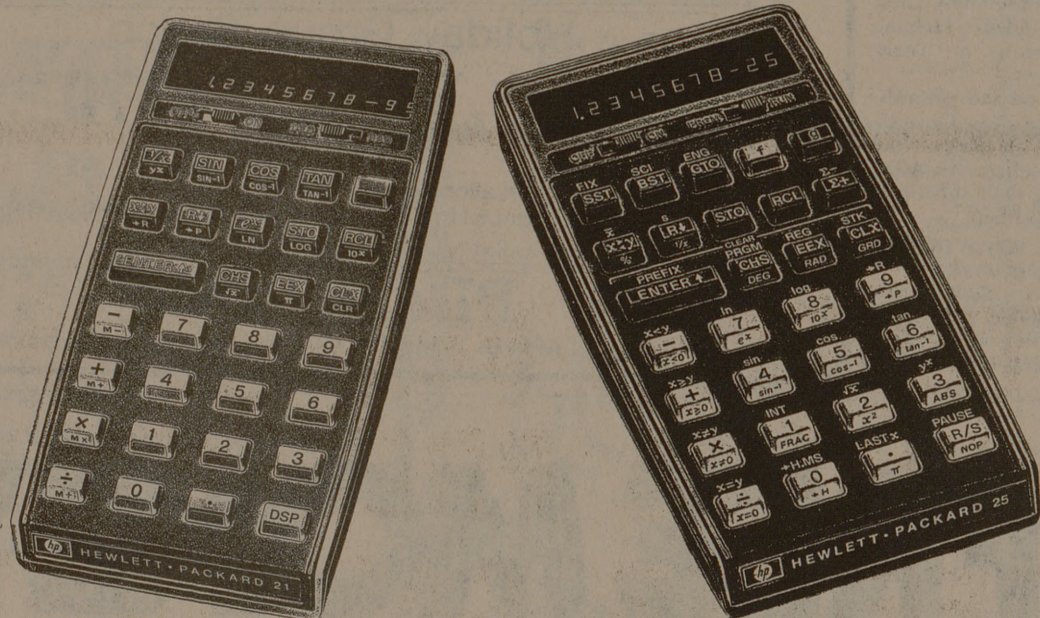
"I really have no idea what we are going against," said Sloan whose team whipped Florida State last

week. New Mexico tied Tech 21-21 in Albuquerque last year.

The SWC 7-2 record against outside foes — the fastest start in 22 years for the loop — is likely to get a notch when tough Arizona State meets Texas Christian in Fort Worth. Arizona State ripped Washington State last week while TCU flopped 24-7 to cross-country rival Texas-Arlington. TCU is a 23-point underdog.

Southern Methodist and Houston are idle this week as they prepare for their Sept. 27 clash in the Astrodome.

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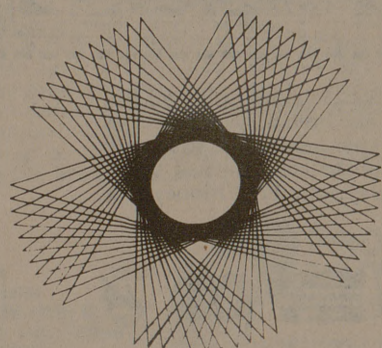
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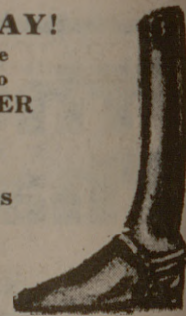
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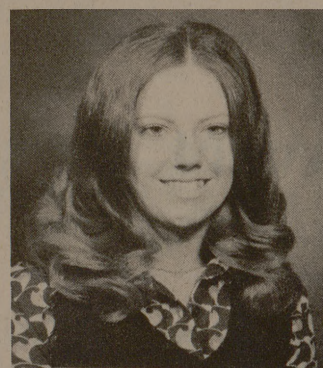
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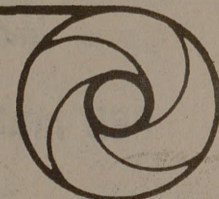


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