

# Softballers win tourney

In an incredibly long and action-packed championship game Saturday night, A&M's women's softball team held off the University of Texas at Arlington 6-4 to capture first place in the Sam Houston State University Softball tournament in Huntsville.

Host Sam Houston State defeated Baylor in the consolation final to beat the third-seeded University of Texas at Arlington (last year's State champion) in this 11-inning marathon finale with no easy task. The Aggies had to contend not only with the two homeruns of Brenda Marshall, but also with UTA's repeated late-inning scoring threats which easily could have changed the outcome of the game and the tournament.

Marshall's solo homerun in the second inning gave UTA an early 1-0 advantage. Then in the fifth inning she hit the bases loaded and two outs, and Kim Bellamy singled to center field scoring teammate Shirley Brown from third to tie the score. But UTA came right back in the

same inning, scoring to take a 2-1 lead.

It was in the top of the sixth inning when the Aggies had their big rally. Cathy Boswell, Becky Hartman and Terri Sandvik all scored, giving A&M a 4-2 lead.

But the lead was shortlived. In the bottom of that same inning, UTA's Marshall played spoiler again, homering with a runner on first to tie the score at 4-4.

From then on it was the never-give-up Aggie defense that kept A&M in the game. UTA had the winning run on base in the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth innings, but each time the miraculous Aggie defense denied them from scoring.

Finally in the 11th inning A&M's offensive got rolling. Behind the clutch hitting of Michele Alford, Boswell and Hartman, both Annette Kemp and Bellamy scored, giving the Ags a 6-4 lead.

With the help of some fantastic Aggie spirit (players changing "Farmers Fight" and other yells from the dugout), the Ags held UTA

scoreless in the bottom of the 11th inning, bringing to an end a very emotional and unforgettable game.

In the excitement of their victory, the Aggies all gathered in a large circle in the infield and, as spectators watched in amazement, proudly sang out the Aggie War Hymn, swaying and all.

The victory was especially sweet for rookie coach Diane Quitta. A player herself on last year's team, this was her first tournament as A&M's coach. After the game the Aggies presented her with the game ball, which was signed by each player.

"That was the best game I've seen in a long time," said Quitta. "But I don't ever want to go through another game like that again," she said.

Before reaching the final championship game, the Aggies first had to face Lamar University, Texas Wesleyan College, Angelo State University and Baylor.

In a close game Friday afternoon, the Ags squeaked by Lamar 2-1 with the help of a two-out, run scoring

double by Cathy Boswell and a homerun by pitcher Kim Bellamy.

That same evening the Aggies shut out Texas Wesleyan College 8-0 behind a remarkable 12 strike-out pitching performance by freshman Michele Alford.

In their next game Saturday morning, a last-inning rally pushed the Ags past Angelo State University 7-3.

Now only Baylor, who defeated the Ags in a pre-season scrimmage, stood in A&M's way of reaching the finals. Behind two run scoring doubles by Alford and a sacrifice run batted in by Liz Zemanek, the Ags defeated Baylor 3-1, thus earning the right to play in the championship finale—a game the Aggies will not soon forget.

This weekend, September 24 and 25, the Aggies will travel to Denton to compete in the Texas Woman's University Tournament. And judging from the Ags' performance this past weekend and from their unblemished 7-0 record this season, A&M will be considered the team to beat.

# Royal blames officials

Associated Press  
AUSTIN — "Some calls can go either way," Texas Coach Darrell Royal said Monday, after making it fairly clear that he didn't think officials' calls went Texas' way Saturday night.

Nineteenth-ranked Texas barely beat unranked North Texas State, 17-14, even though the Longhorns nearly doubled North Texas' total offense — 418 to 216 yards.

"We're just not delivering," Royal told his weekly news conference, blaming "flags and fumbles" and an official's end zone call for making the score so close. He said the official erred in awarding North Texas a touchdown pass with 7:18 left in the game.

Royal said on that 69-yard scoring drive, which enabled North Texas to pull within three points, "43 yards of the 69 was officials."

A 15-yard penalty for holding wiped out a 9-yard North Texas loss and advanced the ball to the Texas 37. A 9-yard pass gain, with a 14-yard penalty for "spearing" the receiver moved the ball to the Texas 14, although Royal said, "I don't

know what it was for."

On the next play, quarterback Ken Smith fought off two Texas tacklers who were clawing at his left arm and threw to Jeff Brown, who dove and appeared to scoop the ball off the artificial turf in the end zone.

Defensive back Raymond Clayborn protested that the ball had bounced off the turf and claimed that Brown told him after the game he should have gotten an "Academy Award" for pretending it was a touchdown.

"Officials sometimes blow 'em, like coaches blow 'em and players blow 'em," Royal said. "He didn't catch a touchdown pass. It (the ball) was on the carpet."

Royal said it was a "late call," and the official seemed to be looking "for help that didn't come. He couldn't see the ball."

Royal admitted, however, that he had not seen the film but was relying on the word of photographer Gary Pickle, who is in charge of motion pictures for each game.

"It was not a big deal," Royal added, "but it made us sweat."

Texas was penalized seven times for 84 yards, and penalties also kept alive North Texas' first scoring drive, but Royal said the officials' calls were "shades of gray. None of it was outright vicious and flagrant. We didn't outright clip anybody or pile on."

Royal said he would have been embarrassed if Texas had been guilty of "vicious or flagrant" fouls.

He mentioned two personal fouls against Texas and fullback Earl Campbell's fumble at the North Texas 12 and said, "Flags and fumbles are what kept us out of the North Texas end zone."

Royal said Campbell "was obviously outstanding" in pouncing for 208 yards on 32 carries even though he "wasn't full speed" because of a pulled leg muscle.

Royal said he wished Clayborn "hadn't been so vocal" about the pass to Brown, but Clayton had spoken out in the dressing room, because "he has a lot of pride and he wanted everybody to know he (Brown) didn't catch a touchdown pass" on him.

# Ballet dancers in athletic uniform

Associated Press  
NEW YORK — When Tom Seaver winds up and sends a fast ball spinning over the corner of home plate for the New York Mets, that isn't just a baseball pitch.

That's art in its purest form.

When quarterback Bob Griese backs and unleashes a soaring pass for the waiting arms of one of his receivers, that isn't just a completed pass for the record books.

That, insists Edward Villella, is classical ballet in its most aesthetic form.

When fans pay \$8 or \$10 for a seat in a stadium or arena to watch a football, baseball or basketball game or even a tennis match, they are getting more than an athletic contest.

"The famed New York dance master said today, "They are seeing &M and getting a better view of the school."

presidents and the crowned heads of Europe, has put his unique ideas into substance through a nationally televised sequence to be shown by CBS-TV next Sunday, 5-6 p.m. EDT.

He calls the "Dance of the Athletes."

Villella has taken seven well-known athletes of differing sizes, abilities and sensitivities and made a sort of Balshoi Ballet out of their doing nothing more than their thing.

His "guinea pigs" include the Seaver and catcher Jerry Grote of the Mets; Griese, of the Miami Dolphins; George McGinnis, 6-foot-8, 235-pound basketball star of the Philadelphia 76ers; Muriel Grossfeld, former Olympic gymnastic performer from New Haven, Conn.; Virginia Wade, British tennis star, and Muisaki Togotara, a karate expert out of Tokyo.

The motions of the athletes were set to music for the hour show and Villella found a ballet quality and sensuality in all of them.

"When Seaver pitches, there is a stylish, beautiful flow to his movement," the dancer explained. "The

windup ends with a snap and it is incredible to watch the fingers as the ball is released.

"Griese is the most methodical but his is a clear approach to the super professional. Upon release of the ball, his hand is in a classical ballet position."

Villella, who has performed before four presidents and Queen Elizabeth as well as Russia's late Premier Khrushchev at Moscow's Balshoi Theater, said McGinnis ex-

hibited "fascinating body movement for a big man"; Miss Grossfeld "an articulate sensitivity and directness" and Miss Wade "a linear quality and sparseness that accentuated the entire body function."

"We did not use fighters," Villella said. "But one would have to say Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Robinson are classical. They throw a punch seven inches and it is beautiful."

Beautiful and soporific.

# Mustangs may use spread

Associated Press  
DALLAS — Don't be shocked if Southern Methodist dusts off the spread formation in the near future.

SMU Coach Ron Meyer, who was a scout for the Dallas Cowboys of the National Football League, said Monday "I've been thinking about getting into the shotgun situation."

Quarterback Bickey Wesson, who only stands 5-foot-9, had trouble seeing over Alabama's huge defensive linemen in last Saturday's 56-3 thumping of the Mustangs.

Wesson is an excellent scrambler and has developed an average passing arm out of SMU's Slot I attack. Meyer didn't come flat out and

say SMU was going to do it.

"We're not going to emulate the Cowboys or anything like that but it would give Bickey a chance to see his receivers a little longer," said Meyer.

Whatever course of attack SMU decides, something needs to be done quickly because North Texas State and the coach SMU fired, Hayden Fry, are on the schedule Saturday night in Texas Stadium.

"It will be real competitive," said Meyer. "I don't think there's any animosity between the two schools. It should be just a great game."

Fry's only shot at SMU since he

joined North Texas State ended in a 7-6 defeat and it's no secret he'd defy like some revenge on the Mustangs.

NTSU gave Texas fits Saturday night before falling 17-14 to the Texas Longhorns in Memorial Stadium.

Meyer said, "We're just not very deep. Alabama had 19 running backs in Saturday's game at various times. We had three."

Meyer added, "We are hurt tremendously. This is the worst defeat in any program I have ever suffered. I take the blame. We didn't have the effort."


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