

# All-female water polo team leads west for match series

By GLEN JOHNSON  
The all-female water polo team, composed of members of the women's swim team at Texas A&M University is scheduled to begin a series of water polo matches all over southwestern United States. The trip will begin Saturday, May 13, and last 10 days, the excursion

will open with a stop in Tucson, Ariz. where their first three games will be played. The competition will include the Arizona State University team and one made up of college and high school swimmers.

The next game will be at the University of Southern California at Davidson on Saturday, May 21, after

a four day layover in Lake Tahoe.

Continuing the tour exclusively in California, where the team feels they will find the toughest competition, the next three games will be played in San Francisco against Stanford University, Chico State University and Los Altos, a high school team. On Monday they will play Merced at Merced.

That same day, they will play the University of California at Santa Barbara.

On Tuesday, May 25, the women face Long Beach, Commerce and the Fullerton water polo teams at Los Angeles. The last game is against San Diego State University at San Diego.

Ten women make up the Texas A&M team. They are: seniors Anne Ketterer, Barbara German and co-captain Leslie Hager, juniors Suzie Lynde, co-captain Debbie Starr and Vicki Brown, sophomore Cindy Hallaran and freshmen Shirley Hill, Jennie Hicks and Linda Melis.

These women are not recognized by Texas A&M as an official school team; however, they all are members of the women's swim team which is recognized by the university.

"Anyone who wants to can join the team," Lynde said yesterday. "But all of those girls going are serious, experienced water polo players. Sometimes we also have some novices on the team," she said.

In years past, the team has played less experienced teams from high schools and clubs which didn't offer A&M the competition they were looking for, team coach Dennis Light said.

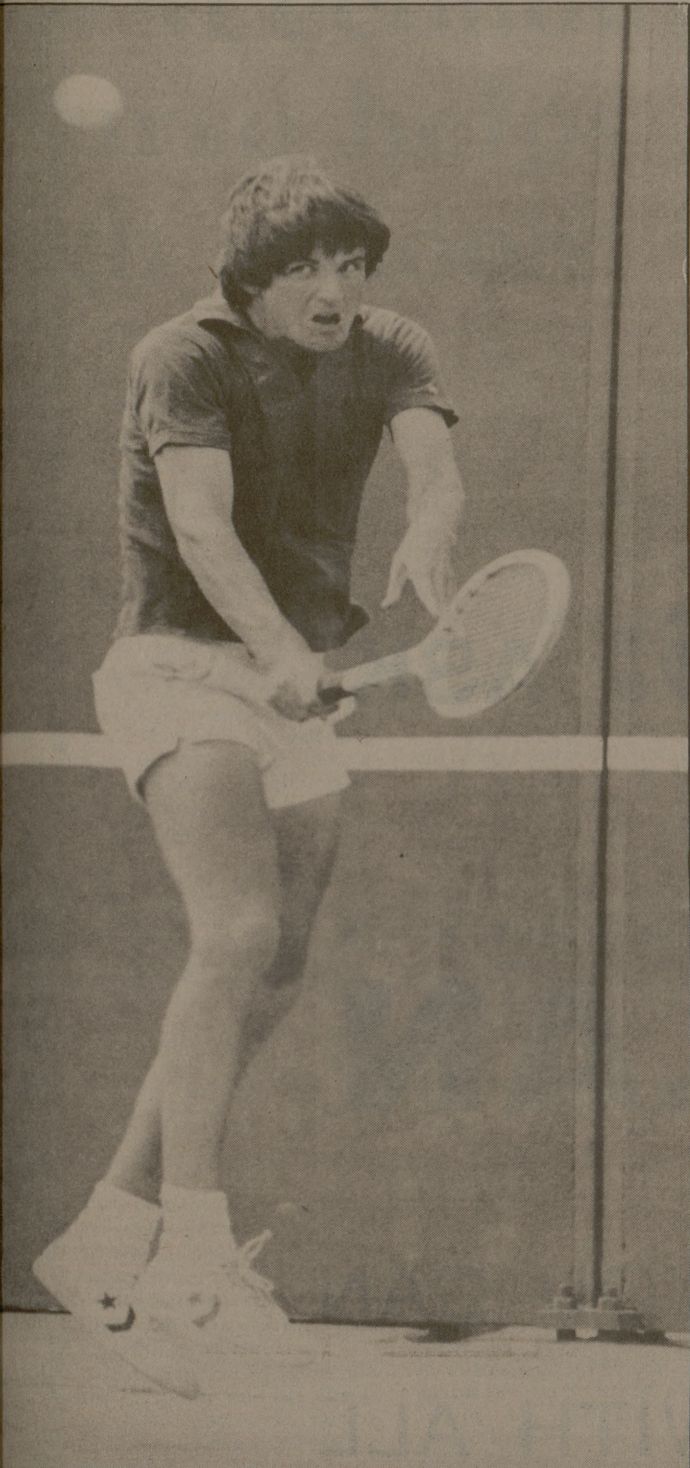
"You wouldn't believe the trouble we have finding teams to play," Light said. "There just aren't many good teams for us to play around here."

The reason for organizing the tour is to allow the women to get experience against some tough teams so they will know what to expect at the National Amateur Athletic Union matches next November.

If the women make this trip, it will be the first time a female team has gone representing Texas A&M.

The women and Coach Light hope to see this tour become an annual event giving future teams a break in the summer in the form of a group vacation and the chance to gain needed experience that they can't get here, Light said.

Currently competing in intramurals at Texas A&M, the team is 4-0 in a series of seven games.



Battalion photo by Betsy Kelley

Texas A&M tennis player, Tom Courson, prepares for the Southwest Conference tournament to be held this weekend in Corpus Christi. Courson is a senior and a four year player for the Aggies.



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## Panatta wins Houston match

United Press International  
HOUSTON — Italy's Adriano Panatta capped a brilliant week of tennis by outlasting New Zealander Vitas Gerulaitis in sultry, hot weather to take a 7-6, 6-7, 6-1 victory in the \$100,000 River Oaks tournament.

Doug Panatta, 26, required ice packs to soothe the back of his neck in a 65-minute first set, which he won when a hand drive in the 11th point of the breaker hit the tape and sped over Gerulaitis' racket.

Panatta faltered after a furious rally in the second set to the second tiebreaker 3-7. But Panatta had strength left for a third set. Gerulaitis, 23, appeared to suffer cramps early in the third set and failed to reach balls which he had gotten early. Panatta won 24 of the last 33 points to win the \$20,000 prize in his first WCT tournament.

The strong final set was the culmination of a spectacular week of tennis for Panatta. In the opening round last Wednesday Panatta defeated top-seeded Jimmy Connors in two sets.

"It gave me confidence beating Connors," Panatta said Monday. "I took Panatta three sets Friday, but he defeated crowd favorite Ken Rosewall, a two-time winner on the Oaks Country Club clay in the five years."

In Sunday's rain-delayed semi-final Panatta destroyed Eddie Dibbs and established himself as the favorite for Monday.

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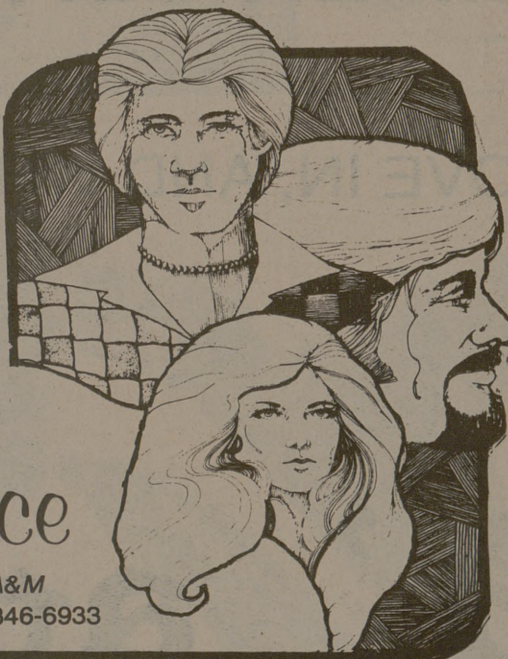
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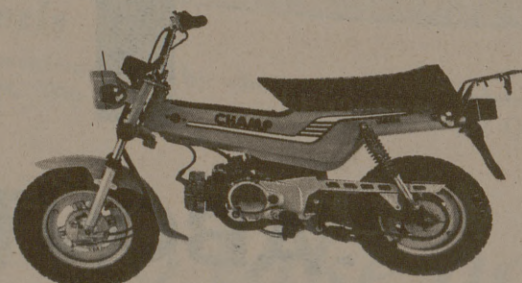
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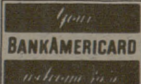
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