

sports

Championship at stake for ruggers

By GERARD A. O'DONOVAN

The Texas A&M rugby club journeyed to Corpus Christi on Saturday and defeated the home side by a score of 33-3. This was the first game of the season for the Aggie White squad and it was also their final outing before the National tournament at LSU this weekend.

The Aggies showed sparkling form, but the victory may prove costly for them as they lost Greg Aswell with a dislocated collarbone and Craig Belew with a twisted ankle. Aswell will be out for the weekend at Baton Rouge.

Corpus Christi played an exceptionally strong first half against the Aggies and trailed by only 6-3 at the interval. All first half points were

from penalty kicks. Playing into a strong wind in the first half the Aggies were slow to get underway and in fact trailed 3-0 for most of the first period. During that spell Corpus Christi had a 2 to 1 advantage in lineouts, winning 8 of 12 and were unlikely not to have been further ahead.

Meanwhile the forwards kept the Ags in the game while the backs regained the poise of last semester. In the first half, A&M pushed and heeled magnificently, winning all 10 set scrums and every loose ruck and maul that came their way.

Mark Anthony and Billy Goodrich had exceptional games. Craig Belew was enjoying his best game in a long time when he had to retire with an ankle injury. Robert Moorman took over at scrum half and the Aggies

had to play with one man shy.

The second half was vintage stuff. Alan Jeffrey had his third penalty goal of the afternoon before Billy Goodrich broke through from a ruck of players and scored with a fine second effort to the right of the goalposts. Jeffrey's two point conversion was good as the purring Aggies led 15-3.

As it turned out, the avalanche had only begun. Paul Rutledge, the speedy left winger, broke tackles as

he dragged a Christian over for a try. He came right back with a 35-yard gallop for another try as A&M, at 23-3, drew away.

With Moorman at scrum half, a constant stream of overhand passes reached the Aggie three quarters as Jeffrey, Rich Stanfield and player-coach Phil Cook shone brightly. It was Moorman himself, who took a beautiful pass from Jeffrey by way of Cook, and scored despite a ferocious tackle at the 10-yard line.

The final score was by club secretary Stanfield as he gingerly touched it down between the posts for Jeffrey to close it out at 33-3.

The competition at Baton Rouge will be very keen, but the present Aggie squad is the most together of any rugby squad since Roger Boos introduced the friendly madness to Aggieland.

It was Boos who took the Aggies to Baton Rouge for their first National Championship and Coach Phil Cook hopes for another this weekend, if 'Dame Fortune' smiles a little. The squad and followers leave by Greyhound bus from the MSC at noon on Friday.

Women's rugby team remains undefeated

The Texas A&M women's rugby team beat the Houston Boars 18-0 this past weekend. The women's record is 18-0 for the year.

The Aggies take their undefeated record to Hammond, Louisiana this weekend to compete in the annual Mardi Gras tourna-

ment. Their first game will be against the Ale Wives from Illinois.

The women ruggers will face their stiffest competition of the season with teams coming from Illinois, Florida, Ohio, Colorado, Louisiana, Arkansas, Wisconsin, New England and Indiana.

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