

Debbie Odum, junior member of the Texas A&M women's tennis team competed last weekend in the TIAIW tournament in Denton.

Battalion photo by Karen Rogers

Women's team looks ahead

The Texas A&M University women's tennis team competed in Denton last weekend in the Texas Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women tournament and finished in seventh place.

In the tournament, 16 other schools were represented including top ranked Trinity University, Southern Methodist University and the University of Texas.

The teams finishing in the top six places assured themselves of qualifying for the Southwest Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women tournament on May 16 in Monroe, La.

Ellen Buchanan, the tennis coach at Texas A&M for the past three years, said that the Aggies, because of their seventh place finish in the TIAIW tournament, would also probably be asked to participate in the SWIAW as an at-large team.

"We knew this tournament was going to be a challenge," Buchanan said. "When you play with teams listed in the top ten in national ratings, you know it won't be easy."

In the singles, the Aggies were defeated in a round of 16. In doubles, the Aggies did well with the team of Kathleen Sissom, A&M's number one singles player, and Susan Schilling and the team of Elise Richardson and Alexis Hefley both losing in the quarterfinals. De-

bbie Odum and Mary Guerra were defeated in the first round.

The qualifiers out of the TIAIW tournament were Trinity University, TCU, SMU, Texas Tech University, the University of Houston and the University of Texas.

Buchanan said there were a large number of spectators that came to watch the tournament.

"Most of the audience consisted of students," she said. "Even Martina Navratilova, the professional woman tennis player, was there."

Anne Smith, from Trinity, finished first in both singles and doubles play.

"Trinity was definitely the strongest university in the tournament," Buchanan said. "They took first place with 36 points. TCU finished closest to them with 19 points."

Next year, the women's team should be very strong.

"Next year, our team should do real well," Buchanan said. "We have one graduating senior, Betty Shilcutt, that we will miss, but we've signed Pam Hill, a freshman from Beaumont and Maylyn Hooton, a freshman from Richardson."

The next tournament after the SWIAW which the Aggies hope to qualify for is the United States Tennis Association tournament in San Antonio scheduled for May 29.

Ags play in SWC tourney

by KEVIN PYLE

SMU was the team winner in the Southwest Conference tennis championships but the individual title went to a Nigerian freshman from the University of Houston.

Nduka Odizor won the title over top-seeded Jai DiLouis of SMU by beating the All-American handily 6-3, 6-3.

A&M placed sixth in the field but it was not a humiliating sixth as the first five teams are ranked in the top 11 in the country.

A pair of freshmen, Reid Freeman and Jim Grubert, had the best showing for the Ags. Playing in the No. 1 singles position, Freeman beat Rice's Ross Persons 7-5, 4-6, 6-4 in a first round match. Grubert opened by downing Doug Swallow from Texas 6-3, 6-3.

In the second round, both went down to defeat. Grubert to Arkansas' Mark Johnson 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 and Freeman to DiLouis 6-2, 6-4.

In the No. 2 singles, A&M's Max King lost to Gary Plock of Texas by

scores of 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. Also suffering losses for A&M were Mike Moss who lost to Texas' Steve Denton 6-2, 6-4, Trey Schutz to Houston's Robert Buchalter 6-4, 6-4 and Robin Baker to Joel Hoffman also of Houston by scores of 6-1, 6-3.

In doubles only the No. 1 team of Freeman and Schutz survived the first round beating Arkansas' Bowman and Hawkins. They lost their next match to SMU's Turpin and Delaney.

King and Grubert were beaten by Houston's Odizor and Russli and Moss and Baker lost to Cain and Vine of SMU.

Coach Richard Barker said his team played well. He added that the Ags might be stronger next year due to the fact that they won't be losing anyone from this year's team.

The final point totals were SMU, 74; Houston, 66; Texas, 65; Arkansas, 62; TCU, 52; A&M, 31; Rice, 18; Baylor, 17; and Texas Tech, 2.

Ag golfers finish third

By KEVIN PYLE

To the surprise of no one, the University of Houston won the Southwest Conference golf tournament. To the surprise of some they just won by a stroke. They came from four strokes back in the final round to edge the University of Texas.

A&M finished in third place but the real story for the Aggies was the outstanding performance of sophomore Dave Ogrin. Ogrin, from Waukegan Ill., finished just one stroke behind individual champion Terry Snodgrass of Houston.

Ogrin, an honorable mention All-America last year, fired rounds of 73-71-69 for a 213 total and one behind Snodgrass' 212.

He played his heart out," said Aggie golf coach Bob Ellis. Playing his heart out paid off for him as his second place finish assured him of an invitation to the NCAA tournament which is the big one for college golf.

Besides Ogrin's score, other Aggie scores were Tim Carlton, 225; Biff Alexander, 226; and Richard Cromwell, 227. Also Doug Wadd shot 232 and Jay Kent shot 239.

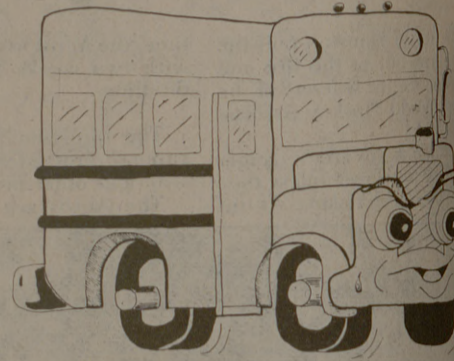
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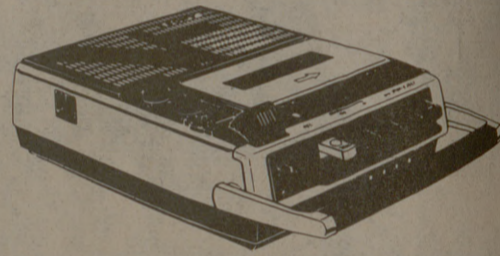
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