

Potts councils athletes

By MARY JO PRINCE
Battalion Reporter

Athletes can not always release their classroom pressures on the practice fields. And when they carry their academic problems back to the dorm, someone is there with open ears and sound advice. This man is Dr. R. C. Potts, academic advisor to Texas A&M's athletes.

Potts is not new to students at Texas A&M. From 1935 to 1977, he was Associate Dean of Instruction in the College of Agriculture. In the fall of 1977, he assumed his present position, at the request of Athletic Director Emory Bellard.

As academic advisor, he responds to individual needs as they arise. Athletes receive guidance in choosing majors, selecting classes and establishing study habits.

"My basic philosophy," Potts said, "is to stress communications be-

tween students and their professors." He said that special efforts to speak to professors outside of class can only contribute to one's academic performance.

Stressing class attendance, he added, "Athletes who do poorly are the ones who miss class regularly." He feels that is a basic cause of various academic problems.

Potts is especially concerned with freshmen, in that they must make big adjustments as they enter college. He says that attitude problems can result when an athlete goes from star athlete status in high school to sitting on the bench in college. These attitude problems can result in academic problems.

Last fall, Potts advised a freshman athlete who wanted to quit football, as well as the University, due to the fact that he did not get to play in a single game.

"I told him he may or may not get

to play professional football," Potts recalled. "If he did not, then he would need to make a living for himself and his family. Having a degree from a fine university like A&M could only be beneficial to him."

After receiving this sound and sincere advice, the freshman returned to Texas A&M and to the football team.

Potts gets agitated when people speak negatively of athletes' intelligence.

"Athletes are not dumb," he said. "So many people have that image of them. The athletes could not perform and excel in their sports if they were dumb." In his advisory capacity, he strives to rid athletes of this negative image.

With the help of Max Bumgardner (resident athletic advisor), Potts informs athletes of the academic aids available to them. Tutors are provided for courses ranging from agronomy to zoology. Freshmen have required study halls two nights a week. The athletes know the help is there simply for the asking.

"The biggest benefit I receive is the pleasure of working with people," Potts said of his position. After a visit with him, one can tell he offers a helping hand and sincere concern to each athlete that walks through his door.

Residents of Woffard Cain Hall have access to many facilities - superb meals, recreational facilities, extra-large beds. But at the top of the list should be their academic advisor, Dr. R. C. Potts. He sees each athlete as an individual, and responds to the needs of each. His concern, enthusiasm and advice help provide important guidelines for their lives when their athletic days are over.

Muhammad Ali for mayor?

United Press International

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Supporters of Muhammad Ali hope to draft the two-time heavyweight boxing champion as mayor of the city of Louisville.

Classified advertisements published this week ask fans of the former heavyweight champ to call a special telephone number. When the number is dialed, a voice says, "We're friends of Muhammad Ali. We would like to show him our support by drafting him for mayor."

The voice then offers to record the caller's name and telephone number and return the call with more infor-

mation.

The Ali supporters — a group of about 10 people — plan to run an Ali-for-mayor advertisement Sept. 14, the day before the Louisville native seeks to regain the heavyweight boxing title. The ad would run in the Louisville Defender, a weekly newspaper serving the city's black community.

While the term of the current mayor, William B. Stansbury, runs until Dec. 1, 1981, the mayor has been under investigation by the city aldermen for his admitted lie concerning his whereabouts on July 14 when a strike by firefighters began.

Batt Pix

Week 1

GAME

Texas A&M-Kansas	Texas A&M by 20	Texas A&M by 16	Texas A&M by 12
Texas Tech-USC	USC by 22	USC by 23	USC by 16
Iowa State-Rice	Iowa State by 19	Iowa State by 27	Iowa State by 12
TCU-SMU	SMU by 8	SMU by 12	SMU by 6
UCLA-Washington	UCLA by 3	Washington by 9	UCLA by 5
California-Nebraska	Nebraska by 9	Nebraska by 12	Nebraska by 7
Oklahoma-Stanford	Oklahoma by 15	Oklahoma by 16	Oklahoma by 10
Dallas-New York Giants	Dallas by 17	Dallas by 17	Dallas by 10
Houston-Kansas City	Houston by 14	Houston by 9	Houston by 4
Denver-Minnesota	Denver by 4	Denver by 13	Denver by 3



David Boggan



Mark Patterson



Sean Petty

Aggies' Hill not late bloomer

By SALLY BLAND
Battalion Reporter

Jimmy Connors, Tracy Austin, Chris Evert. The list is long of the tennis pros that were child prodigies in the tennis world. If a person starts later than four, he is considered a late bloomer.

Not so in the case of Texas A&M University freshman Pam Hill from Beaumont. Hill has a full scholarship to play tennis on the Texas A&M team.

"I started playing tennis when I was 12," Hill said. "Lessons were given by the Park and Recreation Department during the summer."

Unlike today's tennis stars, Hill's parents were not "tennis parents." They didn't pressure their daughter into playing.

"My dad, mom and brother knew how to play, so we had a foursome."

Hill said. "We played for the enjoyment."

In the fall of Hill's sixth grade, she entered her first tournament and lost. She entered her second tournament a month later and lost again. Not a glamorous start for a budding tennis player.

Private lessons began and so did Hill's successful career.

In junior high, Hill consistently won in the age groups ahead of her. She won district all three years in junior high. Hill's high school years extended her winning streak.

"I won district, regional and state 3-A singles all four years in high school," she said.

Hill also participated in volleyball and track. She excelled in these sports as well as tennis.

"I was all-state three years in volleyball and won second in the 880-yard dash at the state track meet my freshman year," Hill said.

Hill is playing on the Texas A&M women's volleyball team. She will concentrate on volleyball this fall and on tennis in the spring.

During the summer months, Hill traveled all over the United States playing in tennis tournaments.

Last year, Hill was rated 76th in the nation and seventh in Texas in the 18-year-old age group.

"The results are not final yet, but I'm probably rated second or third in the state for this year," Hill said.

Hill has received many awards and honors in her short career. She was the first recipient of the Henry H. Freund Friendship Memorial in Philadelphia, Pa. this past summer. Also, the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce named Hill the outstanding high school tennis player of the year.

But the award that stands out in her mind was winning second at the prestigious Texas Sectionals in San Antonio.

"I was surprised and very happy to have placed second at that tournament," Hill said. "It's the most important tennis tournament in Texas."

Hill is quiet, thoughtful and deliberate in her words and actions.

"I plan to work after I receive my

Undeatable bull retires

United Press International
PAROWAN, Utah—The bull is retiring with a record in his 8-year rodeo career. The 11-year-old Bull never ridden by a cowboy in mandatory 8 seconds, and defeated rodeo career last at the Iron County Fair. Honky Tonk's owner, Frederickson said, "The bull is retired to pasture to rest of his life munching

degree in business management may be play World Team. The chance comes up. Hill also like to teach tennis to either in clinics or give lessons.

"I have no high goals. I do the best I can, while I

Leon loses another tooth

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS—dentist Thursday lost a boxing champion Leon another tooth.

Spinks had his right can pulled as the result of a

Leroy Diggs earlier this session with the dentist to

to bypass sparring Thursday prepares for a Sept. 15 bout with Muhammad Ali Superdome.

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