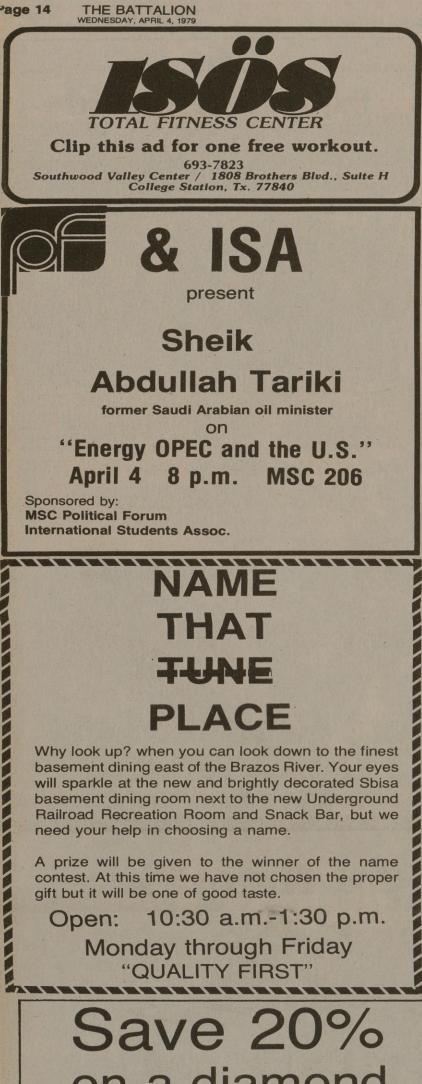
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the sports

Mustangs stampede Aggies

By KURT ABRAHAM Battalion Reporter

National tennis power Southern Methodist continued its dominance over the Southwest Conference Tuesday as the Mustangs slipped and slid their way past Texas A&M 8-1 in a dual match that more often looked like hockey than tennis.

Rackets continually banged the ground like hockey sticks as players struggled to keep their feet on the

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ly resurfaced, but still slippery A&M Coach David Kent. "With this A&M courts. The poor footing was caused by a light rain that fell on and off through the afternoon. At one point, play was halted for almost 30 minutes while rain pelted the courts.

Play resumed in time for the Aggies to pick up their lone win of the day, with Reid Freeman and Alberto Jimenez coming from behind to take the No. 1 seeded doubles match, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3. The win by Freeman and Jimenez was only the third time this season that SMU's duo of Chris Delaney and Mark Turpin were beaten, losing pre-viously to Pepperdine and USC.

"It definitely was a great win for our No. 1 doubles team," said Texas

J. WAYNE

win today, and the overall record they have now, I'd say Jimenez and Freeman stand an excellent chance to be invited to play in the national

NCAA doubles competition." While Jimenez and Freeman were boosting their doubles record to 3-1 in conference play and 12-5 overall, fellow Aggies Mike Moss and Trey Schutz were slipping and sliding through a heartbreaking match that saw them lose to Jai Dilouie and Jeff Turpin, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Kent said the efforts of Moss and Schutz were a good example of

Aggie play. "I thought we did a good job of competing today," said Kent. "SMU is currently ranked No. 1 in the nation and they showed us what a good team they really have. Their depth on the squad is better than any I've seen. I think even their No. 5 or 6 players could play at No. 1 for a lot of other schools."

SMU's depth proved to be the dif-ference in the singles action as the Mustangs swept all six matches. Only Trey Schutz was able to go three sets for the Aggies as he lost the No. 3 match to Delaney, 4-6, 6-2. Usually seeded fourth or fifth, it was the first time this season that Schutz had played in the No. 3 spot in conference action.

Two matches could very easily have been Aggie wins if they had gone to three sets. In the No. 5 spot, Texas A&M's Jim Grubert layed Drew Gitlin closely throughout the match, and at one time led the second set. But it was not enough as he lost 6-4, 6-4. At No. 6, Hendrick Roller found himself in even tighter competition, but could not hang on for the win, losing 7-6, 6-4

Tuesday's results dropped the Aggies to a 16-20 mark for total conference matches, while SMU increased their league-leading record to 34-2, giving them a phenomenal 944 winning percentage. Texas

point at which Texas A&M either behind early which forces makes or breaks its season.

Mike Moss shows his backhand style against the Musta

catch-up tennis." After playing the Home Sunday, the Aggies travel bock to take on the Texas Raiders on April 9. Texa next home match will be on when Arkansas visits Col tion for a 1:30 p.m. match Aggie courts.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy La





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