

the sports

Muniz headed to Nationals

By CAROLYN BLOSSER
Battalion Sports Staff

Texas A&M's women's cross-country team placed fifth in the Regional Cross Country Meet in Denton last weekend. Annie Muniz, a freshman from Houston Bellaire, was A&M's top individual performer with a 12th place finish, which qualified her for the National Meet Nov. 17 in Tallahassee, Fla.

The top two teams and top 15 individuals at Regionals qualify for Nationals.

"There are less than 200 runners that make it to Nationals," A&M coach Bill Nix said. "That's quite an accomplishment in itself."

Other top A&M finishers at Regionals were Cathy Coker (20th) and Barbara Collingsworth (32nd).

Eliana Hocking, who transferred to North Texas State from A&M, won the 5,000-meter race with a time of 17:40. The University of

Texas won the meet and will go to Nationals along with second-place finisher Oklahoma. The University of Houston placed third.

Texas A&M's women's golf team wrapped up its fall season with a ninth-place finish in the 12-team Lady Gator Invitational last weekend in Gainesville, Fla. The Aggies will resume play March 2 when they host the Texas A&M Invitational at Briarcrest Country Club in Bryan.

After the opening round of the three-day tournament A&M was tied for third place with Oklahoma State, with only five strokes separating the second and ninth place teams. The Aggies dropped to tenth after the second round, before stepping up one notch to finish ninth after the third day of play.

Tulsa University blew a 17-shot lead going into the final round and tied with Georgia at 930. Tulsa still managed to win the tournament by beating Georgia on the first hole of the sudden death playoff.

Florida finished third with a combined score of 937, while Texas took fourth with 944. A&M's team total over the three days was 965.

Sharon Barrett of Tulsa shot a three-round 220 to win the tournament. So far this year the Tulsa freshman has played in four tournaments and has won all four.

The Aggies were led by Monica Welsh who shot 236, and Kim Bauer who finished with 237. A&M's other individual scores were Rita Aguilar (247), Jackie Bertram (249) and Sheila Oldfield (250).

Texas A&M's women's volleyball team placed sixth at the State Tournament last weekend in Austin, but did receive an at-large bid to compete in the Regional Championship Tournament Nov. 15-17 in Austin.

The top two teams at Regionals advance to the National Championship Dec. 5-8 in Carbondale, Ill.

A&M entered the State Tournament seeded sixth. In their pool play the Aggies defeated North Texas State 15-8, 15-11 before losing to No.

1 seed Lamar 15-10, 15-17, 15-13. In bracket play A&M lost a close 3-out-of-5 game match to No. 3 seed University of Texas at Arlington, 15-13, 6-15, 9-15, 15-13, 15-12. A&M ended the tournament with a 10-15, 15-6, 15-11 loss to No. 5 seed Texas Tech.

The University of Houston overcame a 7-14 deficit in the last game of the championship match against Lamar to win the tournament. UTA finished third, Texas fourth, and Texas Tech fifth.

The Aggies will scrimmage Houston and other teams this weekend in Houston to prepare for the Regional Tournament.

Spurs defeat Nets, 108-95

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs used a 39-point fourth quarter to gain a 108-95 victory over the stubborn New Jersey Nets Tuesday night in a National Basketball Association game.

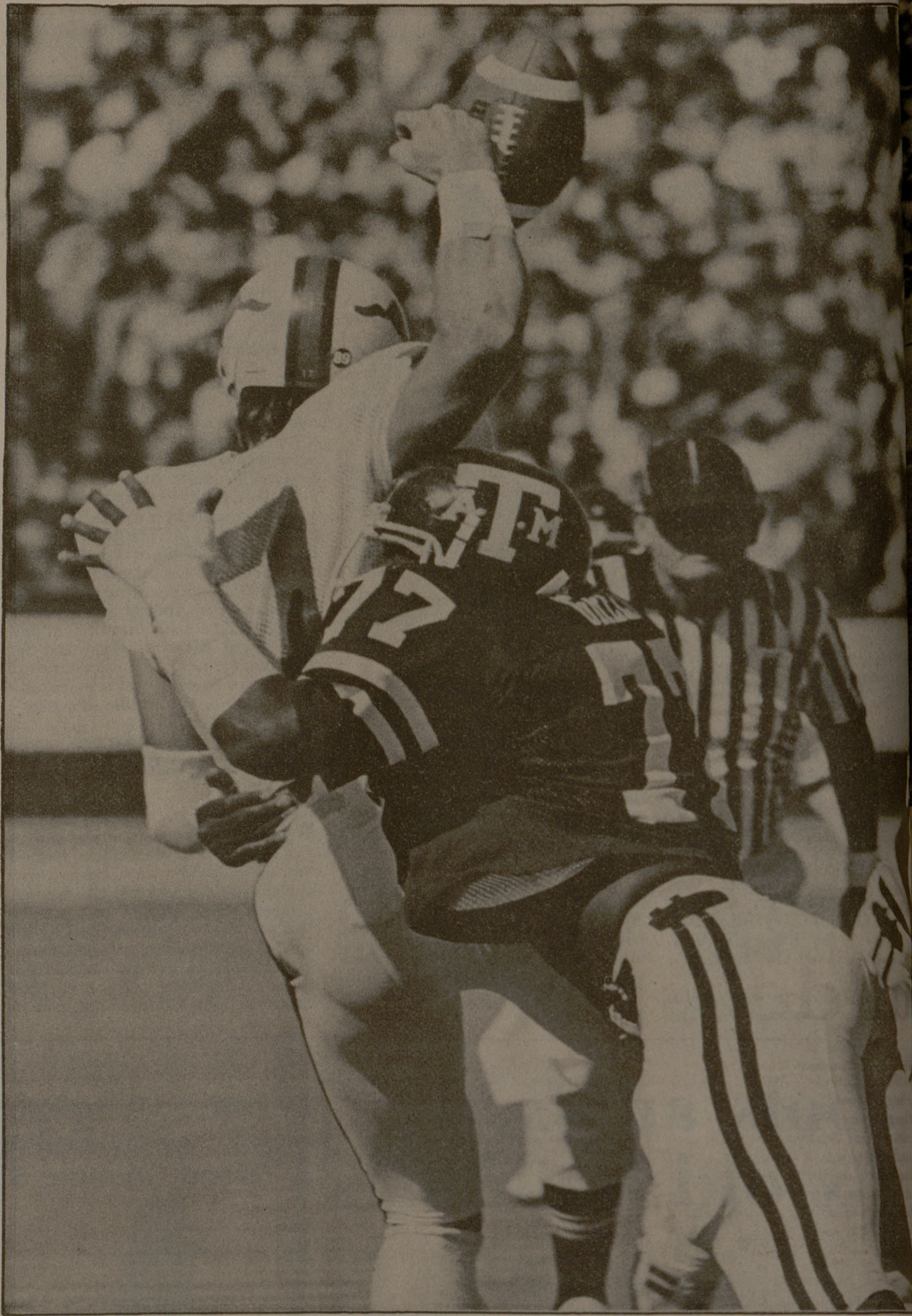
Paced by George Gervin's game-high 24 points, the Spurs outscored New Jersey 24-11 in the middle of the final period. The Nets seemed to lose momentum after Bob Elliott had a field goal negated by stepping out of bounds with the Spurs ahead 78-74 at 8:30 into the game.

Backguard Mike Newlin's 15-foot jumper gave the Nets a 70-69 edge after three quarters. That period saw 10 lead changes and the score was tied four times as neither team could pull away from the other.

The Nets gained a 47-44 halftime advantage as John Williamson hit a 3-point shot at the buzzer.

The Spurs had to overcome a 7-0 deficit at the beginning of the game. San Antonio did not score until center Billy Paultz hit a shot at 8:17 of the first quarter.

Rookie forward Calvin Natt led the Nets with 21 points and 10 rebounds.



Stopping the Pony Express

Battalion photo by Ed...

Texas A&M defensive end Jacob Green crashes in on SMU starting quarterback Mike Fisher in the first quarter. Fisher left the game right after Green's tackle with a rated shoulder and is out for the season to Mustang Mania miseries.

Allen says U.S. will beat Russia

United Press International
DALLAS — Southern Methodist basketball coach Sonny Allen had a closeup view of the Soviet Union's national team Tuesday night and he came away with a firm opinion. "We'll beat them," Allen said without hesitation. "We have better

basketball players than they do." Allen wasn't referring to his own SMU team. The Mustangs were a 97-84 victim of the Russians Tuesday evening.

By "we" Allen meant the U.S. team which must battle the Soviet Union on the Russian's home court in next year's Olympics.

The SMU game was the third in a tour of the U.S. by the Soviets. The Russians had previously defeated the University of San Francisco and Texas-El Paso.

Although there is size, strength and shooting ability throughout the Russian squad, the players that carry the team are 7-4 center Vladimir Tkachenko and 34-year-old Olympic veteran guard Sergei Belov.

"I think a player like (Duke center) Mike Gminski can handle the Russian's big man," said Allen. "Any average 6-9 or 6-10 center who is a physical player can hold his own with the guy."

"Sure, he's a good player. He's going to get his points. But we have players over here who can play with him. Rudy Woods (Texas A&M's 6-11 center) is another player who would do a good job."

"The Russians are a good team. Don't get me wrong. If they have one obvious weakness it would be that they are not a great ball-handling team. They are quick, but they aren't fast."

"They are a better team SMU. That's why they were there are better players in the States than we had on the tonight. These are the best Russia. Sometimes they leave the best ones behind, but they this time because they are ready for the Olympics."

The Mustangs appeared to Russians' equal early in the SMU jumped in front by 12 midway through the first half shooting of forward Brad Allen and guard Billy Allen, both finished with 16 points.

But Belov hit 7 of his 8 shots first half to rally his team to a halftime lead.

SMU closed to within three early in the second half only the Russians wear them down.

"They played a very good defense," said Russian coach Belov. "Comelski in passable English. They shut off the basket big man."

Tkachenko did not score for the first 11 minutes of the game and finished with 16. Belov 22 — 18 of them coming in the half.

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