

sports

UT overcomes problems, St. Joseph's for 70-61 win

United Press International
AUSTIN — John Danks and Ron Baxter overcame first half problems to lead Texas to a 70-61 victory over St. Joseph's (Pa.) University Wednesday in a first round game of the National Invitation Tournament.

Danks, the game's leading scorer with 19 points, had but two points in a listless first half. Baxter scored 10 of his 16 points in the second half. He was plagued with foul problems in the first half, getting his third with four minutes left in the first half.

Texas led 31-25 at the half and expanded its lead to 56-39 with 9:55 left in the game behind the shooting of Baxter and Danks.

The Hawks closed it to 60-52 with 3:33 left before Danks scored five points in a 90-second span to give the Longhorns an insurmountable 69-54 lead with 1:34 remaining.

Fred Carson and LaSalle Thompson scored 11 and 10 points respectively for Texas, which now hosts the winner of the Alabama-Birmingham vs. Southwest Louisiana match Monday night in Austin.

Mike Morrow led St. Joseph with

14, including 12 in the first half. Bryan Warrick added 13 and John Smith scored 11 for the Hawks, which closed its season at 21-9.

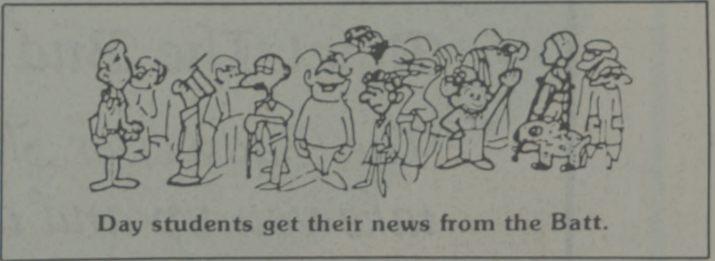
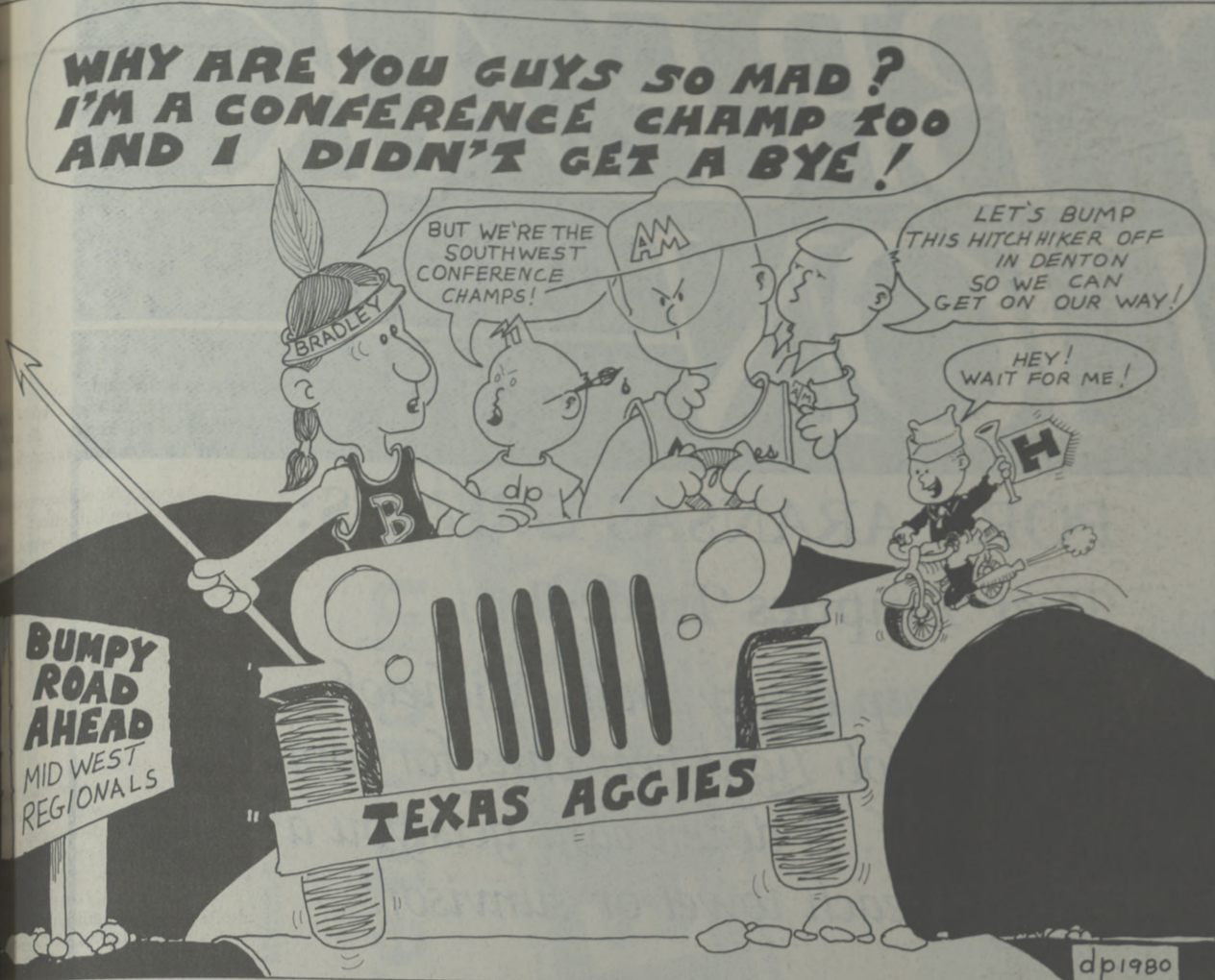
Texas, which finished third in the Southwest Conference, improved its record to 19-10.

Texas coach Abe Lemons credited Carson, a freshman point guard, for charging the offense when the rest of

his players were just standing around.

"It's been a terrible week and it started that way tonight," Lemons said. "We were just listless, standing around out there. St. Joe is a pretty good club. I don't know if (the Texas players) realized they were getting into post-play or what."

"But Carson pulled us through tonight. He did a heck of a job."



Aggie softball team stronger than ever

By JOHN BRASHER

Sports Reporter
Completing their fall schedule with a 7-7 record the Texas women's softball team, ranked 10th in the nation, will now begin a tough road to the College Series.

The team's first test came last week when the Aggies swept No. 1 Texas Women's University, 4-0, in a double-header at Park in each team's spring opener.

The Aggies posted a 58-20 record and finished fifth at the College Series, best ever for an Aggie team. This year, however, the team is expected to be a contender in the World Series may be because of Texas A&M's de-escalation.

"We have one of the toughest college schedules in the country. It will either break us," Galloway said in their schedule this week period when the team will face the nation's top three teams, UCLA, and California State. But the schedule is up there, as the Aggies will have to face two fine midwest teams, the 5th ranked Indiana University and 9th Western Illinois.

The Aggies will face teams from the top 15 over 20 times this year.

"We can combat our opponents with our excellent pitching and our defense," Galloway said. "We have the best one-two combination in the country and our defense could stack up against anyone in the nation."

Galloway mentions pitching coach Lori referring to freshman Lori sophomore Shan McDowell who combined for a 20-6 record last fall.

McDowell, the Texas player of the year, set a school record with a run average of 0.37 while walking only eight batters in 83 innings.

"She has everything for her and could be in the running for possible All-Americans," Galloway said.

had nine wins in the fall and pitched a perfect game. She gave up only two walks in 84 innings, had an ERA of 0.59, allowed just 14 runs the whole season, and at one point, went 13 innings without allowing a hit.

Another plus for the Aggies will be their speed. Karen Guerrow, a sophomore from Bellaire, is the fastest player on the squad. She led the team in stolen bases her freshman year and stole second, third, and home in one game last year.

Galloway said, "The team has the capabilities of being one of the nation's top teams. Strength-wise and position-for-position, it's probably the best team ever at A&M."

At second base is Carrie Austgen, a freshman from La Grange. Austgen led the squad in seven offensive categories in the fall. One of the squad's top hitters is Rhonda Reese, a junior physical education major from Spring Branch. Reese batted .390 last fall and her skill and experience as a catcher has made her one of the Southwest's top all-around players.

Texas A&M's top offensive player

is junior Melody Prichard. Prichard, a left-hand hitter from Long Beach, Calif., has good power according to Galloway and is an excellent bunter. She had a batting average of .306 in the fall and led the team with 11 walks.

The shortstop position is solid with Nancy Sullivan from Houston at the helm.

Other key players for the Aggies will be centerfielder Mary Lou Wargo who played all 34 games without committing an error. There is also Glorian Motil, who set a school mark on defense with over 40 assists, and Maria Resendez who plays third base with a .920 defensive mark.

Some people may feel that the team may be inexperienced since it consists of four freshmen, five sophomores, four juniors and one senior.

This spring, the Aggies will play all of their home games at the Bee Creek Softball Complex at the end of Anderson Street in College Station. This will be the team's home until the new softball complex, to be built at Texas A&M, is completed in the fall.

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