

'Mystique' follows Brown

United Press International
INDIANAPOLIS — For all the confusion and wonderment surrounding UCLA this season, one thing is certain as far as Larry Brown is concerned.

"He's gonna score — you can't stop him," the UCLA coach said Sunday of Louisville All-America Darrell Griffith. "I won't be surprised if everybody on the team gets a chance to guard him. The kids all say they want to take him. But they say that now."

The Bruins meet Louisville at Market Square Arena tonight (8:15 p.m.) to settle this season's wildly unpredictable national championship before an estimated viewing audience of 50 million.

After Louisville's 80-72 semifinal victory over Iowa Saturday, the image of Griffith does not fade easily. He scored 34 points, hitting 14-of-21 shots, to go along with 5 rebounds, 2 assists and 3 steals.

"If his points come easily we're in trouble. He reminds me a lot of David Thompson, who I coached at

Denver in the pros," said Brown.

"I'm approaching this game with more determination than the one against Iowa," said Griffith, who is dedicating the tournament to a cancer-stricken friend in Louisville. "The Final Four is something you strive for. It's the highlight of my career."

But for all of Griffith's individual gifts, Monday night's title game might just as well be played in a house of mirrors. These are two similar teams — each built on youth and quickness with a hard-running game

to compensate for lack of height.

"Both teams are offensively designed to provide equal scoring opportunity," said Louisville Coach Denny Crum.

Brown, whose unranked Bruins advanced to the championship game with a 67-62 victory Saturday over Purdue, is prepared for a quick assault by Louisville.

"They'll probably press us as soon as we get out of the dressing room," Brown said. "If we get careless and get caught in a schoolyard game, we could be in trouble."

For Brown, in his first year as UCLA coach, words such as "mystique" and "tradition" follow him like a zone press. After all, he inherited a team that had won 10 national titles in 16 years and 13 consecutive Pac-10 championships.

"I think UCLA means a great deal," Brown said. "I know we are a better team now because of the attitudes of the past coaches and players. It is a positive influence on us. We can feel it and it makes us play better. That is what matters to us."

sports

Pitching staff proves to be winning factor

By KATHLEEN McELROY
Sports Staff

Last weekend was a great time to play softball — at least for the Texas A&M University women's softball team. The Aggies destroyed McNeese State and Northwest Louisiana in two doubleheaders Friday and Saturday at College Station's Bee Creek Park.

In the first game of the McNeese doubleheader, Texas A&M won 4-1, even though the Aggies managed only six hits for the game. McNeese managed only two hits off Texas A&M starting pitcher Irene Mach, a freshman from Southern, Conn.

The offensive stars in the game for the Aggs, ranked fourth in the nation, were catcher Rhonda Reese and third baseman Maria Resendez who both went two-for-four. Reese, one of the Aggies' leading hitters during her career, was the Aggies' offensive star of the weekend, collecting two or more hits in three of the four games.

In the second game, the Aggies' pitching staff proved to be the difference as Texas A&M won, 4-0. Shan McDonald came in for relief for Shannon Murray and posted her

sixth win against three losses. Murray and McDonald combined their talents to pitch a one-hitter and struck out seven McNeese batters.

Both teams were scoreless by the bottom of the sixth inning when the Aggies crossed the plate four times. McNeese pitchers gave up three singles and walked one batter while the defense committed four errors.

In the doubleheader against the Northwest Louisiana Lady Demons, once more the Aggie pitching staff was overpowering as Texas A&M won 5-1 and 11-0.

In the first game, Mach again pitched a solid game, giving up only five hits. Her only tough inning was the second when Northwest Louisiana got three hits and scored its only run. The big inning for the Aggies was the fourth when they got three hits and scored two runs off an error.

The big hitters for A&M in that game were juniors Reese, who got two hits, and shortstop Nancy Sullivan, who was three-for-four.

In the second game, starting pitcher Lori Stoll and reliever McDonald combined to crumple the Northwest Louisiana bats, as together they threw a no-hitter. The

Lady Demons never hit a ball into the outfield, and only got on base twice on walks. Stoll, a sophomore from Lee's Summit, Mo., struck out 10 batters in just four innings, and McDonald, a sophomore from Canada, struck out six batters in three innings.

And if the pitching wasn't enough, the Aggie bats exploded against the Lady Demons. Collecting 14 hits in all, Texas A&M scored four runs in the second inning, and three in the fourth. The leading hitters were Carrie Austgen who went three-for-three with two doubles and a triple, and again, Reese, who also went three-for-three.

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DOWNTOWN BRYAN

Horns crush Aggie Netters

By MIKE BURRICHTER
Sports Editor

The Texas A&M men's tennis team went Austin Saturday confident they would win their first conference match over the University of Texas for the first time in 15 years. They returned home Saturday night they received what David Kent called a "country licking" after suffering an 8-1 drubbing at the hands of the Horns.

The Aggies entered the match with an overall record of 12-4, the start a Texas A&M tennis team has ever had. Kent was extremely optimistic going into the Longhorn match, saying Aggie victories over OU, ranked fourth in the nation, Oklahoma State and Oklahoma State, both in the top twenty, had given the Aggs were for real.

"I really thought we'd win this match," Kent said. "I have no excuse, we just got a real country licking. We were a little tentative out there."

Kent said another reason the Aggs did so poorly was the player match-ups. "Probably, other than being outplayed, the loss was mostly my fault," Kent said. "They changed their lineup quite a bit. We didn't have the pairings we wanted. I wanted Freeman to play (Guillermo) Stevens, but he got some big fast guy."

Kent was speaking of Paul Crockett who beat Freeman in the top match, 6-1, 6-4. Stevens, playing at No. 2 for the Horns, beat Crockett 6-4, 6-2. Sam Fontenot defeated the Aggies' Trey Metz, who had just recovered from injury, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2. Doug Crawford beat Aggie Max King in the No. 4 match 6-3, 2-6, 6-2. Freshman Brian Joelson made his singles record 16-1 when he beat the lone Aggie win over Bill Bryan, 7-6, 6-7, 6-3 in the fifth match. In the sixth seed singles match, Craig Karden clinched the victory for the Horns with a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Boyd Bryan.

In doubles, top-seeded Stevens and Crawford crushed Jimenez and Schutz 6-1, 6-1, second-seeded Crozier and Karden beat Freeman and King 7-6, 7-6, and in the third seed match it was Berryman and Garig Yngst over Joelson and Tom Judson 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.

Kent said he was not sure Schutz would play until the day before the match.

"He had been really sick with the flu all week," Kent said of the junior from Galveston who has usually played in the top seed position for the Aggs this season. "He wasn't in top form. He had lost ten pounds last week."

Of the Aggies' lone victory, Kent was ecstatic with the play of Joelson, a freshman from Oregon.

"He's a super athlete," Kent said. "He just won't accept defeat. It stares him in the face every week. He's amazing. I'm going to have to play him higher. He's had a pretty easy time at No. 5."

Kent said it's back to the drawing board after the disappointing defeat. "I'm going to change my lineup a little," he said. "I'm going to use more freshmen against East Texas this week."

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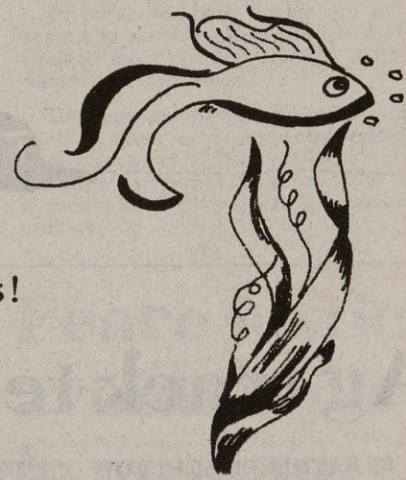
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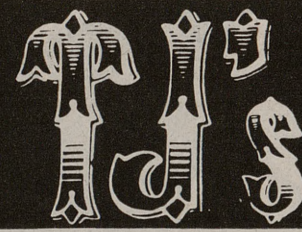
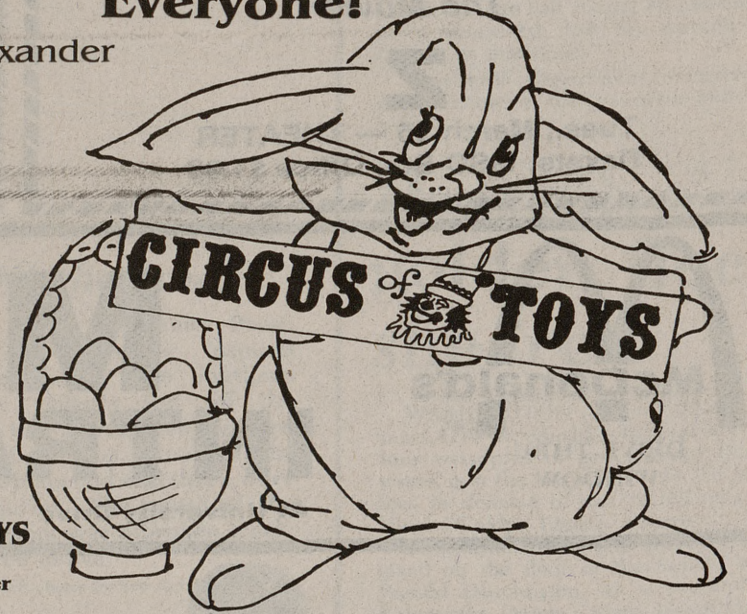
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