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## Sports

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



# Wrestling Ags finish 2nd

It may be a large dose of beginner's luck, or it may just be talent. The latter probably holds true.

"It" is the fast start of the freshmen on the Texas A&M University wrestling team this fall.

This past weekend, the Aggies, led by seven freshmen, went to the University of Texas Open in Austin and walked away with a second place trophy.

"They surprised me," said Wrestling Club President Bob Santini Monday. "We didn't even have a 177 pounder (class participant) there, and they were competing against

Texas and Richland and the best teams in the state."

Richland took the event title. Texas A&M was hampered even further by the fact three-time state champion Santini and fellow team leader John Sweatt, a two-time state champ, did not participate because they were training for the very competitive Oklahoma Open, which will be Saturday and Sunday in Norman.

Several Aggies took class titles at the Texas Open.

Freshmen Ed Conway, Greg Lewallen and Joe Eazor won in the 118-, 134- and 150-pound classes respectively. Freshman Ricky Lanacek was second in the 190-pound category, and senior Curtis Templett finished second in the heavyweight event.

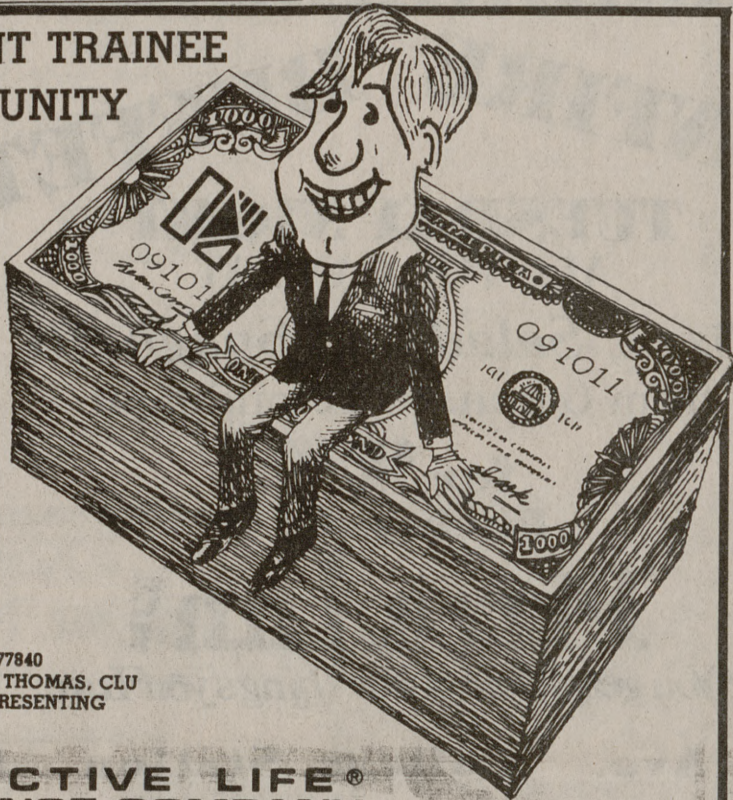
The Aggie B team will travel to Dallas Dec. 6 for the Richland Open, which will end the A&M competition for this semester.

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## Reflections

by Richard Oliver

### OSU has traditions, too

I got lei-ed in Columbus, Ohio Friday night. That's right, I had a wet, beautiful kiss planted on my lips by a female when I entered a Columbus drinking establishment, then lei-ed. Right there at the door in front of hundreds of people.

It's all part of Ohio State University tradition. For those die-hard Aggie football fans who follow traditions and rituals, thought I'd bring you up to date on a few from one of those "hot places up north."

This weekend, the Ags will take on the hated Texas. Last Saturday Ohio State played their equally hated foe, the Michigan Wolverines, was attending a journalism convention in Ohio, and got treated to mean football rivalry, Yankee style.

Before I get too deep in the story, I suppose I better explain why I got lei-ed. In an area of Columbus called German Town, there is a small club called Diebold's, which is the local hangout of the students (a la our Dixie Chicken).

They have a custom there where Hawaiian leis are passed around a woman with a lei on her neck may in turn place it around a student's neck and give him a kiss. The guy then looks around and a girl he can carry on the custom with. And on and on. It makes it fun of picking and grinning, let me tell you.

On Friday night on High Street before the Wolverines came town, the Buckeyes all gather to drink, party and sometimes destructive in arousing the spirit for the long-awaited match.

There is screaming, singing, dancing, etc. as Ohio State has passed around and unplanned marches are held up and down the street. Needless to say, traffic is hard-pressed to find a way through this mob.

Anyone mentioning Michigan usually receives a severe lashing, or a swift kick in the ... well, no one mentions Michigan anyway.

In all the dives and holes in the wall in Columbus, groups praise the red and gray of Ohio State, and the colors are everywhere. A little history will show you that Ohio State and Michigan have been foes since way back in 1897. The two schools have played another 76 times, with the Wolverines taking 43 contests (the weekend's 9-3 squeaker), and the Buckeyes winning 29. There been five ties.

Besides the raucous partying on High Street, the game affects every spectrum of life — from business to religion.

Across the street from the Ohio State Capitol, a sign in an upstairs window of a skyscraper urged the Buckeyes to "Beat the gan." Banks attired their tellers in gray and scarlet t-shirts in OSU. Restaurants in the city hung up gray and red curtains, waitresses wore OSU corsages. One church in the city had the weekly Bible verse on its outdoor bulletin board, with a message in black letters underneath that said, "Go Bucks!"

On Friday night before the game, a giant pep rally was held that attracted thousands of fans from the 50,000-student campus as coming visitors, along with Head OSU Coach Earle Bruce and players.

A friend of mine, Tom Smith, who graduated from Texas A&M in 1979 and lived in Columbus for a year, took me for a tour of the game day.

Nearly every neighborhood house in the ritzy part of town has a flagpole in its front yard. On that flagpole was a large gray flag with red "O" in the middle of it.

It was all very impressive. Tonight at the Bonfire, I'll probably compare OSU and A&M a little bit. But, then again, it would be fruitless. Aggies are a special breed, no doubt, and when it comes to beer drinking and celebrating, we can't be equalled. But as for lei-ing — I think OSU has got us.

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