

Sports

Diamond Darling tryouts next week

Tryouts for the 1982 Diamond Darlings will be held Tuesday, Oct. 13 at Pat Olsen Field. All interested girls must apply with the Sports Information Office between Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Thursday, Oct. 8. All applicants will need to go by the office, located in room 203 G. Rollie White Coliseum between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Finals will be held Thursday, Oct. 15 at the Letterman's Lounge in G. Rollie White.



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Ags' win shows team character

How 'bout them Ags?! You may have thought the first one-point win over California was a fluke. The one-point loss to Boston College should never have happened and Louisiana Tech was out of Texas A&M's league.

But another one-point win like the one in the Aggies' first Southwest Conference game? A script writer in Hollywood would have been tossed out of the studio if he had shown up with such a story.

Yet, despite the unlikeliness of it all, the Texas Aggies are showing a lot of people a lot of things they would not have believed earlier. Foremost among them is something the Aggies showed none of last year: character.

Sure, it's an old cliché, but after another come-from-behind win like the 24-23 victory over Texas Tech, the Ags have shown a great deal of character.

A packed house of Red Raider partisans at Jones Stadium in Lubbock was against Texas A&M, but the Aggies came back to win. If they can win like that on the road, what can they do with 70,000 Aggie fans cheering for them?

The 1981 version of the Texas Aggies has shown itself, in only four games, to be completely different from teams of the past. The differences are startling and complete.

The offense that was such a liability last year has become this team's biggest asset. The offense had averaged 402 yards a game before the Texas Tech game, and gained 490 against the Red Raiders.

The defense also rose to the occasion by keeping its average and holding the Red Raiders off balance all night long. Although the Ags gave up 316 yards to the Raiders, they are playing winning, opportunistic defense.

The defense does not look like the same one the Ags had last year. They simply do not have that "Aggie choke" look about them.

Out of the Blue

Rick Stolle



When the team gets behind, the players don't say, "Here it goes again," like they did last year. Instead, they have pulled up their socks, strapped on the chin straps and pulled together to take it to opposing teams.

Another item the Ags were lacking last year that they have found is experience to go with their assets on offense and defense.

With a few seniors lost from last year's team, the Ags were counted out of the conference race by many experts. "Too young," they said, "They can't win in the SWC without a good bunch of seniors."

But there were many underclassmen returning who had played a great deal last year. They did not excite any of the "experts" with their talent and have so far proven themselves to the entire conference. They have shown in just a few games that junior leaders with a few seniors can do the same job a "good bunch of seniors" can do.

The weekend's win over Tech should have opened a few eyes.

In fact, the Aggies had already opened some eyes before they even stepped onto the field. The Houston Post reported Sunday that after the Houston Cougars defeated Baylor Bears, 24-3 Saturday, the Cougar players departed the field chanting, "Aggies, Aggies, Aggies."

Not "We want the Aggies," or "Aggies, here we come," but simply "Aggies." It seems the Cougars were already thinking about Texas A&M, even before the Baylor game was over. That is usually a pretty dangerous thing to do, since SWC teams have a disturbing way of pulling upsets in such situations.

Nevertheless, Houston won the game and already the Houston-Texas A&M game has taken the proportions of being one of the biggest games in the conference just a few weeks into the conference schedule. The Aggies will have to show all the character and use all the experience they have gained in the first four games for this one.

The Cougars are moving well under a new quarterback and have a defense that ranked fourth in the nation last week. Houston will be, by far, the Aggies' biggest challenge.

The Aggies should be up for the challenge, though. This is something this team seems to enjoy doing — defying the odds.

The Aggie defense will face the biggest challenge. The same defense that hounded Texas Tech quarterback Reeves all night, making him throw on the run or dropped for a loss, will be tested to the limit.

The pressure the Aggie defense put upon Reeves was constant Saturday. If the Aggies have as good a day as their Houston quarterback Lionel Wilson, the final result will be the same — another win for the Aggies.

Softball team rolls past six more foes to win tourney

By FRANK L. CHRISTLIEB

Battalion Staff
It's old news, but the Texas A&M University women's softball team did it again.

For those who don't understand the meaning of "it," the Aggies won their third tournament in four tries, going undefeated through six games to raise their season record to 26-2. And the competition at the Sam Houston State Invitational tourney just couldn't figure "it" out.

However, it's not as if the teams in the tournament haven't seen the Aggies before. Each of Texas A&M's opponents over the weekend had faced the Aggies earlier in the year, some of them only the week before at the Stephen F. Austin Invitational tournament.

But a week certainly isn't enough time to figure out this Aggie team. The Aggies played Coach Bob Brock's former team, the Baylor Bears, in the tourney's first game. The Bears gave Texas A&M its toughest game before falling 2-0 to the Aggies. In fact, the Aggies' first and last games ended in 2-0 scores, with both the Bears and the SHSU Bearkats providing tough competition.

Lori Stoll pitched a two-hitter against the Bears, while the

Aggies also picked up only two hits. However, Texas A&M took advantage of Baylor mistakes to win the game in the eighth inning.

Pan American University had lost 15-0 to the Aggies the weekend before, with the game called in the fifth inning. Texas A&M showed less mercy this weekend, taking only three innings to win again by a score of 15-0. Lisa Martinez struck out six and gave up one hit during the game to pick up the win. Roshelle Fruidenberg had two hits and six RBI, while Shan McDonald had two hits and three RBI.

McDonald defeated SFA 5-0, striking out eight of the first nine batters she faced to finish with 10 strikeouts. The Aggies had eight hits, with Carrie Austgen's two-run home run and Mary Lou Youngblood's two hits leading the effort.

In the Aggies' 10-0 win over St. Mary's University, Martinez pitched another abbreviated one-hitter, striking out eight before the game was called in the fifth inning. Patti Holthaus had five RBI, including a three-run homer in the first inning, while Youngblood also hit a three-run home run for the Aggies.

McDonald pitched a two-hitter

against Angelo State University in the Aggies' semi-final 8-0 win, striking out five. The Aggies hit 12 hits, with Holthaus' solo home run leading the way.

The last time the Aggies had faced SHSU in a tourney championship game was during the first week of the season, when Texas A&M beat the Bearkats 1-0 in the Texas A&M Invitational. Behind Lori Stoll, the Aggies beat the Bearkats again by a score of 24-0. Stoll gave up one hit, while the Aggies picked up five, scoring their runs in the sixth inning. Eric Resendez led off with a single and was sacrificed to second by Martinez. Pinch running for Resendez, Rose Ruffino scored when Josie Carter tripled, making the score 1-0. Austgen followed with a single to bring in Carter with the final run of the night, giving the Aggies a clean sweep of all six of their games in the two-day tournament.

"The teams we played against weren't that strong, but we played our game really well. The team felt that we were in control," assistant coach Sue Lilley said. "The Aggies travel to Stillwater, Okla., this weekend to participate in the Oklahoma State Invitational tourney."

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Ags gain experience in Austin tourney

By RICK STOLLE

Battalion Staff
In what head coach David Kent described as a fair but disappointing tournament, the Texas A&M men's tennis team returned Sunday from the University of Texas three-way tournament in Austin.

"We gained a lot of experience," said the coach, "but we played too many close matches and lost."

Kent said freshman Kimmo Alkio from Finland played very well. Alkio defeated tournament second-seed and number one Texas player Paul Crozier 6-2, 6-3 in the first round.

Tom Judson also played very well in both singles and doubles, he said. Judson defeated Peter Mako of Trinity 6-4, 7-5 in the first round. Both Judson and Alkio lost in the second round.

Judson teamed with Ron Kowal to go to the quarterfinals in the tournament. They were defeated 6-2, 6-4 by Johnny Levine-Tim Fontana of Texas.

He said he was surprised at the strength of the Longhorn team. Texas had two players going against each other in the finals of the singles competition. Also, one

of the doubles teams in the final was from Texas.

"I have to give Texas a lot of credit," said Kent. "They play very, very well and have a strong team."

He went on to say, however, that he believes the Aggie team has now is the strongest and most talented he has ever had.

"This will be a strong team," the coach said. "It has a great deal of talent and has just now begun to jell."

The team was without the talents of number one player Brian Joelson, who went home to Portland, Ore., to watch the Davis Cup competition being held there.

He will be back this week as the Aggies prepare for the Texarkana Invitational Tournament.

"I'm not saying we would have done that much better in Austin with Brian," the coach said. "But we would have won a few more matches."

Kent said the team will improve as the fall season continues and that the fall is really only a tune-up for the spring season and the conference race.

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