

# Sports

## Ag women's tennis team to travel to SWC tourney

By RICK STOLLE  
Battalion Staff  
The Texas A&M University women's tennis team will face a very tough test as it travels to Fort Worth this weekend to compete in the Southwest Conference championship tournament.

Playing singles for Texas A&M will be: Liliana Fernandez, Amy Closs, Pam Hill, Teresa Landry, Cheryl Stanford and Sonja Hutcherson. Laura Hanna and Maylyn Hooton will play only doubles for the team.  
Aggie coach Jan Cannon said:

"We are just taking advantage of some of our depth. We have a couple of girls still recovering from some injuries and we don't need them getting reinjured by playing longer or more matches than they should."

She said by taking more players, there is less chance of injury and more players will be able to participate. Fernandez and Landry are coming off injuries and will not play doubles.

Cannon said the doubles teams will be Hill-Hooton, Closs-Hutcherson and Hanna-Stanford. She said the teams may change depending upon injuries and who is playing better.

"We're in good shape health-wise and depth-wise right now," Cannon said.

The first round of the tournament is scheduled to start at 8:30 a.m. Friday, with the winners playing each morning and the losers playing each afternoon during the tournament.

## Board may soon decide fate of 'faltering' A&M football

By now, it's no secret to anyone that coach Tom Wilson is in hot water with some members of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents over the performance of the football team.

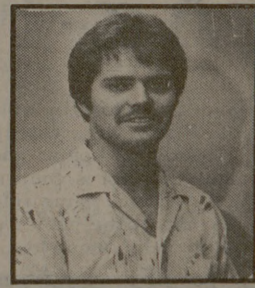
The Board will be on campus Sunday and Monday for its regular meeting, and although it's not on the agenda, you can bet that Wilson's status as head coach will have top priority behind closed doors.

The 5-4 record the team currently owns doesn't please the 'gods' and they are reportedly ready to make a move. What move they will take is not yet known. However, they have several options to choose from: 1) they can fire Wilson; 2) they can leave him alone, or 3) they can give him a vote of confidence and extend his contract.

Wilson, on the other hand, has a couple of options himself. He can accept the board's decision and abide by it, whether it be to stay or leave. Or he has another choice, one that has crossed his mind several times already: step down, regardless of the decision.

Of course there are other options available, but these seem to be the most obvious.

If the Board fires Wilson it will only hurt the University's reputation even more than it has done in the past. Any major university that runs off two pretty successful



Ritchie Priddy

coaches isn't going to have big names applying for the job. Of course they may already have a man picked out for the job.

Wilson is fed up with the pressure and the indecision of the Regents and has made his move. Monday he asked University President Dr. Frank E. Vandiver for a decision to be made within two weeks.

The reason behind this request is recruiting. If he is given a vote of confidence, it has to be public and it has to be soon. Immediately after the final game the coaches hit the recruiting trail, and they must know their status to be effective.

Indecision will hurt the program perhaps even more than his dismissal. There's not a coach in the world who can recruit with the ever-present threat of removal hanging above his shoulders. What can he promise

the recruits? It would not be stability, and that's one foundation of a successful program.

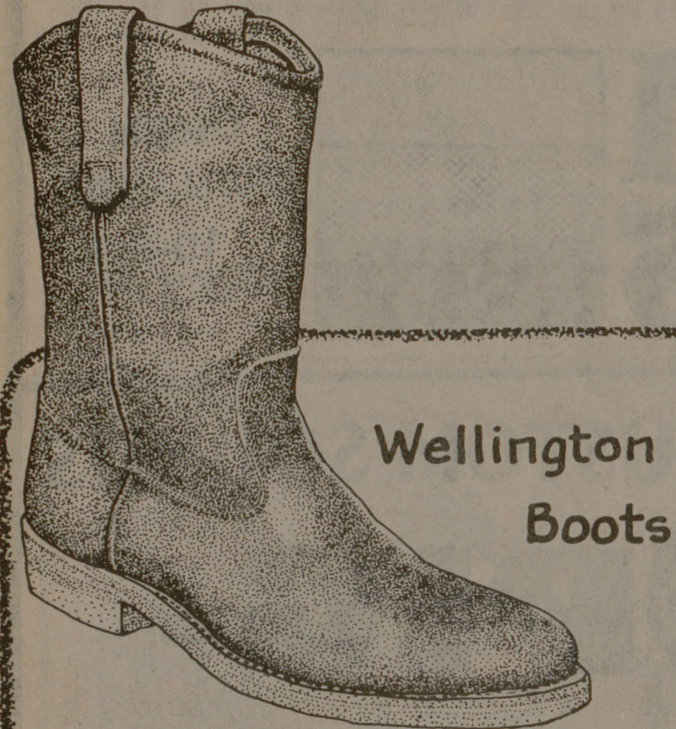
Their third option is to publicly give him the support he needs. I can't help but believe that if these people really have the best Texas A&M's best interests at heart, the pressure wouldn't be there.

A vote of confidence would be the best thing the Board could give Wilson. But some members feel that they have waited too long for a winning team, and by giving him a vote of confidence it would make it that much harder to get rid of him later if the need should arise.

"I really don't think I could leave the football team right now," Wilson said of the possibility of giving up his position. "I would, though, if they don't extend my contract."

His contract expires next year. However, Wilson is not the type of person to leave something he's started, and that includes a successful program that has been in the making for a couple of years now.

The president handles the hiring and firing of all University personnel. However, the Board has been known to exercise its influence in the operation of the University, and unfortunately, seems about to do it again.



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