

The Battalion Sports

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Golfers have high hopes after Bluebonnet victory

by Frank L. Christlieb

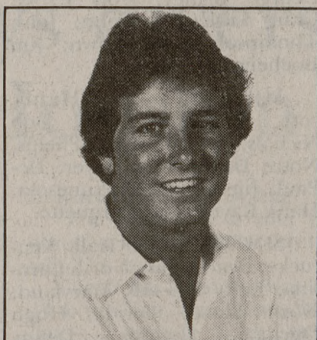
Battalion Staff

Danny Briggs can't understand why people keep underestimating the strength of the Texas Aggie golf team.

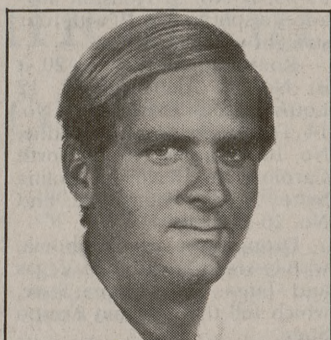
But after this weekend's performance in the Bluebonnet Bowl Invitational at Columbia Lakes, lots of folks will be talking about Briggs, Paul Oglesby and the rest of the Texas A&M golfers.

Briggs and Oglesby, the Aggies' two-man best ball entrants in the tournament, scored a 12-stroke victory over a 22-team field that included NCAA champion Houston, NCAA runner-up Oklahoma State, Texas, UCLA, Missouri and Stanford. The two Texas A&M seniors, shooting a 196, 20-under par total for three days, finished 12 shots ahead of the Cougars and the University of Texas-El Paso, tied for second at 208.

Briggs and Oglesby shot 69-61-66 during the three-day "best ball" event, in which only the best effort on each hole counted toward a team's final score. For instance, on a hole which one member of a twosome birdied



Danny Briggs says Aggies shooting for national title



Senior Paul Oglesby leads with 71.9 stroke average

and the other player parred, only the birdie would be included in the overall score.

"Everyone was acting like Houston was the only team to beat down there," said Briggs, who finished the fall season with a 72.1 stroke average. "I don't really think they were, because there were plenty of good teams there."

"It seems like every tourney we go to, we're never considered the favorite. But I think we should have been the favorites in this tournament, because Paul

and I have been playing so well this season."

In Saturday's round of 61, Oglesby had seven birdies and an eagle, hitting a seven iron 150 yards into the hole for an eagle on a par 4, 420-yard hole. During the competition, Oglesby and Briggs combined for 19 birdies, an eagle and only one bogey (on the No. 16 hole in Friday's first round).

"Naturally, when you win something like that," Briggs said, "it's great. "One of our goals before this year was to try

to finish better in tournaments than we did last season. Last year, we didn't play so well at tournaments, but we worked hard to finish fourth at nationals."

"But this season, we've had two thirds, four seconds and two, firsts. We've really been pleased about the way we've played this semester and we're excited about the spring. This year, we've got a lot of upperclassmen, and our eyes are focused more on winning the national title."

Briggs said Oglesby, who finished the fall with a stroke average of 71.9, has played consistently well all season.

"Paul has just played super this semester," said Briggs, a second-team all-America last season. "He's finished in the top 10 in every tournament we've played."

"In this tournament, Paul and I just buddy-buddied it real well. We could have both shot 77s on the final day and still won it by one (stroke)."

Ellis, whose squad won the Southwest Conference tourna-

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staff photo by David Fisher

Scoring a basket — the hard way

Texas A&M freshman Roger Bock flips the ball toward the basket during the Great Alaska Shootout, while Clemson's Raymond Jones (23) and Clarke Bynum prepare for a possible rebound. Bock

and the Aggies play LSU Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. in New Orleans' Superdome. The Tigers lost Saturday to North Carolina 47-43 after holding the Tar Heels to nine first-half points.

Jets 4-1 after 28-13 victory

United Press International

PONTIAC, Mich. — The New York Jets insist they merely took what the Detroit Lions gave them. And the Lions gave them everything.

Richard Todd and Wesley Walker picked off everything that wasn't nailed down in the Silverdome Monday night by combining for a club record-tying three touchdowns in a 28-13 romp over Detroit.

The Jets came up with a pair of fumbles and three interceptions but turned only one of the turnovers into a score in raising their record to 4-1 with their fourth straight win.

The stumbling Lions dropped their third post-strike decision in a row following a pair of

prestrike victories.

"We took what they gave us," New York Coach Walt Michaels said. "We passed a lot on first down but most of them were short. That's what they gave us."

Walker burned Detroit for five catches and 164 yards — including touchdowns covering 56, 41 and 19 yards. Todd threw for 286 yards in the first half, hitting 10 in a row at one stretch. He finished the game 23-of-32 for 384 yards.

Walker set up a 1-yard sweep around left end by Dwayne Crutchfield with a pair of receptions, one for 30 yards and the other for 18 yards. Crutchfield's score gave New York the lead for good, 7-3.

The next time the Jets had

the ball Walker caught a pass and blew by cornerback Wayne Smith as the receiver scampered, untouched, on a 56-yard jaunt.

Three straight running plays the next time the Jets got the ball sucked the Lions' backs in and Walker went over Smith again for his 41-yard score and a 21-3 New York halftime lead.

Detroit held New York without a first down in the third quarter and attempted to get back in the game when Gary Danielson surprised the Jets by opening a series with a 48-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Mark Nichols — the Lions' only offensive touchdown of the last 11 quarters.

Seconds later, Smith sacked

Todd and caused a fumble. Defensive end Dave Pureifory recovered — then fumbled where linebacker Stan White could recover it on the Jets' 1.

Two plays later Billy Sims fumbled on a handoff as he attempted a leap into the end zone, with Ken Schroy recovering for New York.

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