Smalley undergoes uccessful surgery

tally ranker expected to anchor the left in a defended by the New York V in a doo field this season, but first he take care of his own side. nalley, 30, underwent an rgency appendectomy at erial Point Hospital in Fort derdale, Fla., on Wed-

the surgery was very sucal and the operation took than an hour," said Bill esch, the Yankees' vice dix might have ruptured. There's a chance he will be ng out in two weeks and he be perfectly well in three

ankee manager Billy Martin "I think he'll be ready for tart of the regular season.' 30-year-old Smalley is cted to be the club's regular rtstop but may see action at and third base.

At Tampa, Fla., Cincinnati all said they were close to an Reds' pitcher Charlie Puleo agreement. underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right knee Wednesday and is expected to be sidelined about two weeks.

In Sarasota, Fla., pitcher Al Hrabosky said he will close his long-running performance of "The Mad Hungarian" and abandon the mound antics that earned him that nickname - if

he makes the team. The last few years, I was only dent. "The doctor said if he doing it because people exwaited another day the pected me to," said Hrabosky, 33, who was given a tryout by the White Sox. "It had become a

Willie McGee and David Green and pitcher Dave LaPoint, all of whom are participating in the Workouts, have not signed but Craig McMurtry

Montreal Manager Bill Virdon announced Steve Rogers, Scott Sanderson, Bill Gullickson and Charlie Lea will start the Expos' first four exhibition games, beginning Saturday.

Tom Seaver, who is expected to be the Mets' opening-day pitcher on April 15, will be starting Friday when the Mets play the first of five intrasquad games. Ed Lynch will oppose

Shortstop Fred Manrique and pitcher Mercedes Esquer signed with the Toronto Blue Jays.

Show."

The world champion St.
Louis Cardinals completed their second day of workouts for the second with three key play
The world champion St.

At West Palm Beach, Fia., the Atlanta Braves participated in an intrasquad game and Manager Joe Torre announce his linear linear linear for Saturday's Grapefruit League opener against Montreal — Phil Niekro, Pete Falcone, Rick Mahler and

A&M tennis team shocks Wichita State in tourney

Mar. 5) -ranked Wichita State in nesday's opening round of Corpus Christi Team Tour-

> exas A&M won four of six les matches and two of three ibles matches against the ockers in the four-day comion, which includes 24 s from across the nation. field includes 13 of the Top

eams in the country. Although the Aggies aren't nally ranked, they've now ated Top 20 members thwestern Louisiana (6-3) Wichita State, and have lost to No. 4-ranked Trinity by ore of 8-1. Texas A&M, ch finished the past spring on ranked No. 18 in the ntry with a 22-8 record, was have played seventh-ranked nson this morning at 8:30. he Tigers, who finished last on also ranked No. 7, defethe Aggies 8-1 last season. th victories in Wednesday's h in Corpus Christi, sopho-Kimmo Alkio and senior Judson have 11-1 singles

-3 after a loss to WSU's erto Saad.

duates to ere are

10th. A

nolding a

Marin

846 (hised its record to 12-1 on the ason with a 6-3 victory over tennis team, which has a 6-3 record, opens play today in the Brigham Young Team Tournacord, opens play today in the Brigham Young Team Tourna-ment, which features eight teams from around the country. Aggie freshman Vanne Akagi has a 9-1 record in singles thus far, while Teresa Landry and Amy Closs are both 7-3. Akagi and Cathy Nutt lead the team with a 7-2 doubles record.

The women's team has posted four shutouts in six victories, including 9-0 triumphs over Memphis State, Texas-San Antonio, Southwest Texas State and East Goor champions, WSU) def. Joelson-Judson (A&M) 6-4, 6-4

from the men's victory over Houston-Norman 6-4, 6-0

Trinity

A&M 6, Wichita State 3 Roberto Saad (WSU) def. Brian Joelson (A&M) 6-4, 6-4 Kimmo Alkio (A&M) def. Paul Smith 7-5, 6-0

Tom Judson (A&M) def. Dale Houston 2-6, 6-1, 6-1 Greg Hill (A&M) def. John Thorpe 2-6, 7-6, 6-3 Arnold Kettenacker (A&M) def. Andrew Castle 6-3, 6-2 Simon Norman (WSU) def. Ron

Thorpe-Castle 6-2, 2-6, 6-2 Here are complete results Hill-Van Barry (A&M) def.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHN WAGNER

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The Texas A&M women's

ords on the season, while gie No. 1 seed Brian Joelson

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds Nash expects fourth-place finish

Swim team at SWC meet

by Frank L. Christlieb

Battalion Staff
Aggie swimming coach Mel
Nash says he hopes for a few
surprises at the Southwest Conference Swimming and Diving Championships, which open today at the University of Texas

and last through Saturday. Nash, whose 8-4 squad hasn't been ranked this season, enters the meet with hopes that the Aggies can finish among the top five teams in the league. But with a strong performance, Nash says, Texas A&M may crack the polls that come out after the meet.

In respect to the national rankings, Nash and his team find themselves in an odd predicament. The Houston Cougars are ranked No. 20 in the nation. The Aggies defeated Houston 75-38 earlier in the season. That would seem to indicate a Top 20 spot for Texas A&M.

Not so. It all comes down to politics, Nash says.

"We got close to the Top 20 during the season, but we never broke through with the one outstanding time that could get us into the rankings," he said in Austin Wednesday night. "I'm hoping we can set a few people on their heels and that we can be nationally ranked after this

"We really just need a little publicity on the national level. All year long we've been sort of hiding in the bushes. The disappointing thing is that we're not even on the list of teams that receive votes but don't receive enough to make the rankings.'

When Nash refers to an "outstanding time," he's talking about a situation like that of the Cougars. Houston's Peng Siong Ang is ranked No. I in the nation in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 20.03 — three-tenths of a second faster than his nearest competition.

That kind of top ranking is what the Aggies don't have, although freshman Chris O'Neil is ranked fourth nationally in the 100-yard butterfly and freshman John Heldenfels is ranked sixth in the same event.

But national rankings aside, Nash says he and his swimmers want to perform well enough to beat Houston, which probably would put them fourth behind Texas, SMU and Arkansas. Nash said the Longhorns, ranked No. 1 in the nation, and the Mustangs, ranked No. 5, shouldn't have much trouble staying ahead of their opponents in the meet.

The Aggies, who finished fifth in last year's SWC meet, may have trouble catching the

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12th-ranked Arkansas Razorbacks, he said.

"It looks interesting," he said. "Arkansas and Houston are really strong teams. I'd say Houston, Arkansas and A&M are all around the same range, but Arkansas has an edge because of their divers. They have five in the meet and they're all ranked divers, whereas only two of our four divers are in that category. The diving probably gives Arkansas at least a 40point edge over us.

"We feel pretty confident about how we're going to perform in the meet. It's tough to guess how the points are going to come out when you have several teams around the same level. I do believe we can do well and

we're hoping for fourth."

Nash said the Aggies "aren't nervous or scared of anybody."
The freshmen, including O'Neil and Heldenfels, need to perform well, Nash said.

Here's a list of Texas A&M's best times for the season (all distances are in vards):

100 individual medley — K. Londrigan, 55.15-200 1M — Reeder, 1:56.17 400 1M — Reeder, 4:12.46

200 medley relay — K. Londrigan, Viminitz, O'Neil, Craig Buchmann, 1:35.59 400 medley relay — K. Londrigan, Viminitz, O'Neil, Peter Gatchell, 3:26.37

200 free relay — O'Neil, Chris Londrigan, Pat Ballard, John Heldenfels, 1:27.65 400 free relay — Heldenfels, Clark McDonald, Gatchell, Buchmann, 3:06.74 800 free relay — Heldenfels, K. Londrigan, McDonald, Walker, 7:05.31

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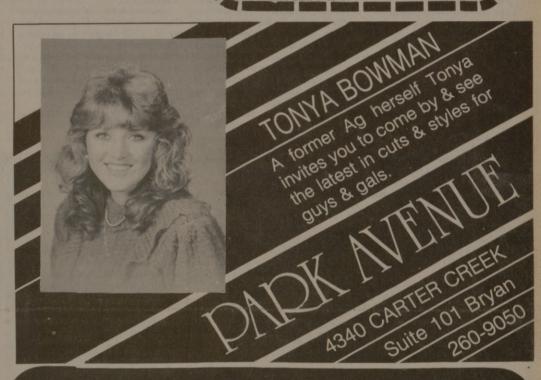
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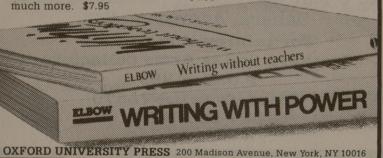
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