

BANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Smalley undergoes successful surgery

Veteran shortstop Roy Smalley expected to anchor the left field of the New York Yankees this season, but first he must take care of his own side. Smalley, 30, underwent an emergency appendectomy at Memorial Point Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on Wednesday.

"The surgery was very successful and the operation took less than an hour," said Bill Bergesch, the Yankees' vice president. "The doctor said if he had waited another day the appendix might have ruptured. There's a chance he will be working out in two weeks and he could be perfectly well in three weeks."

Yankee manager Billy Martin said: "I think he'll be ready for the start of the regular season." The 30-year-old Smalley is expected to be the club's regular shortstop but may see action at first and third base.

At Tampa, Fla., Cincinnati Reds' pitcher Charlie Puleo 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 doing it because people expected me to," said Hrabosky, 33, who was given a tryout by the White Sox. "It had become a show."

The world champion St. Louis Cardinals completed their second day of workouts for the full squad, with three key players still unsigned. Outfielders Willie McGee and David Green and pitcher Dave LaPoint, all of whom are participating in the workouts, have not signed but

all said they were close to an agreement.

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 Seaver.

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

At West Palm Beach, Fla., the Atlanta Braves participated in an intrasquad game and Manager Joe Torre announced his pitching lineup for Saturday's Grapefruit League opener against Montreal — Phil Niekro, Pete Falcone, Rick Mahler and Craig McMurtry.

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 meet."

"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 Siang Ang is ranked No. 1 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

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 40-point 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 yards):

- 50 freestyle — Clark McDonald, 21.29
- 100 freestyle — Kevin Londrigan, 46.94
- 200 freestyle — K. Londrigan, 1:43.21
- 500 freestyle — Rick Walker 4:32.52
- 1,000 freestyle — Walker, 9:24.58
- 50 butterfly — Chris O'Neil, 23.21
- 100 butterfly — O'Neil, 49.70
- 200 butterfly — Bob Salas, 1:51.70
- 50 backstroke — K. Londrigan, 24.92
- 100 backstroke — K. Londrigan, 52.86
- 200 backstroke — Scott Reeder, 1:56.94
- 50 breaststroke — Mark Vimitz, 27.32
- 100 breaststroke — Vimitz, 58.78
- 200 breaststroke — Vimitz, 2:10.36
- 100 individual medley — K. Londrigan, 55.15
- 200 IM — Reeder, 1:56.17
- 400 IM — Reeder, 4:12.46
- 200 medley relay — K. Londrigan, Vimitz, O'Neil, Craig Buchmann, 1:35.59
- 400 medley relay — K. Londrigan, Vimitz, O'Neil, Peter Gatchell, 3:26.37
- 200 free relay — O'Neil, Chris Londrigan, Pat Ballard, John Heldenfels, 1:27.05
- 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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A&M tennis team shocks Wichita State in tourney

The Aggie men's tennis team raised its record to 12-1 on the season with a 6-3 victory over fifth-ranked Wichita State in Wednesday's opening round of the Corpus Christi Team Tournament.

Texas A&M won four of six singles matches and two of three doubles matches against theackers in the four-day competition, which includes 24 teams from across the nation. The field includes 13 of the Top 20 teams in the country.

Although the Aggies aren't nationally ranked, they've now defeated Top 20 members southwestern Louisiana (6-3) and Wichita State, and have lost only to No. 4-ranked Trinity by score of 8-1. Texas A&M, which finished the past spring season ranked No. 18 in the country with a 22-8 record, was have played seventh-ranked Clemson this morning at 8:30.

The Tigers, who finished last year also ranked No. 7, defeated the Aggies 8-1 last season. With victories in Wednesday's match in Corpus Christi, sophomore Kimmo Alkio and senior Tom Judson have 11-1 singles records on the season, while Aggie No. 1 seed Brian Joelson 9-3 after a loss to WSU's Roberto Saad.

The Texas A&M women's

tennis team, which has a 6-3 record, opens play today in the Brigham Young Team Tournament, 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 Texas State. Texas A&M has lost to Arkansas, Oklahoma and Trinity.

Here are complete results from the men's victory over Wichita State:

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 Kowal (A&M) 6-3, 6-7, 6-3

Saad-Smith (1982 NCAA indoor champions, WSU) def. Joelson-Judson (A&M) 6-4, 6-4
Alkio-Kowal (A&M) def. Thorpe-Castle 6-2, 2-6, 6-2
Hill-Van Barry (A&M) def. Houston-Norman 6-4, 6-0

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