

# Tennis team aiming to upset SMU

**Taking on No. 2:** It's been a successful season for the Texas A&M men's tennis team so far this spring, as the Aggies have compiled an 18-4 record and have defeated three Top 20 squads. But entering today's match with the No. 2-ranked SMU Mustangs, Texas A&M hasn't been ranked in national polls. In the latest poll, the 12-2 Mustangs dropped from first to second after losing to Cal-Irvine, but the Aggies are nowhere to be found in the rankings. Aggie women's coach Jan Cannon sums up the situation: "We don't get any respect. We're just beating a lot of the teams that are in the Top 20. We're the Rodney Dangerfields of college tennis." The SMU squad features nationally ranked players Rodney Harmon (29-5 in singles last year), Erik Van't Hof (27-7 last season) and Jerome Vanier (25-5 last season). Mustang coach Dennis Ralston says his squad, which lost to Trinity earlier in the season, knows the Aggies will

provide stiff competition: "I think A&M's very strong and it'll be a tough match. They're always tough, they compete real well and they have great talent. We recognize that and we realize that we'll have to play very well to win."

**SWC baseball update:** With the Southwest Conference baseball sea-

swept Texas Tech in Waco. Here's the way the standings look at this point in the season (the Texas Longhorns, 29-5 on the season, have yet to play a conference game.

- Houston (3-0, 24-2), 1.000
- Baylor (4-2, 15-11), .667
- Texas A&M (2-1, 18-5), .667
- Arkansas (3-3, 22-6), .500
- Rice (2-4, 20-6-1), .333
- TCU (1-2, 18-8), .333
- Texas Tech (0-3, 9-9), .000

**Up and coming Roadrunners:** Although it hasn't set the world on fire yet, the University of Texas-San Antonio men's basketball team has shown improvement during the first two years of its existence. Coach Don Eddy's squad, which finished 8-19 two years ago and 10-17 the past season, lost 11 of 17 games by 10 points or less and seven by six points or less. Eddy says he's anxious about the future: "We will return 11 lettermen next year, including three starters. If we can get a good point guard and a quick forward, we'll be a very good team next season. This season seemed to last years, rather than three months." Against SWC teams, the Roadrunners were 2-3 this season, defeating Texas Tech 69-67 and Rice 58-51. UTSA lost to Baylor 61-60, to Arkansas 78-59 and to TCU 65-56. Arkansas is still alive in the NCAA playoffs and the Horned Frogs played Monday night in the second round of the National Invitation Tournament.

## Sports File

son barely underway, only the Houston Cougars have been able to escape building up numbers in the loss column. As of this past weekend's games, the No. 4-ranked Cougars have a 3-0 league record after sweeping the Rice Owls. It's been a hard-to-figure season so far, as Rice won two of three games from Arkansas and Baylor

Two crucial series take place this weekend, as the Arkansas Razorbacks host No. 1-ranked Texas for three games Friday and Saturday and No. 4 Houston hosts the Aggies in a three-game series. Friday's Aggie-Cougar game starts at 3 p.m. and the first pitch of Saturday's double-header will be at noon.

# sports

## Holtz likes intensity in Monday workout

**United Press International**  
FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — After taking a week off for spring break, the Arkansas Razorbacks returned to spring practice Monday despite cold and windy weather in Fayetteville. Arkansas head coach Lou Holtz was not pleased with the passing attack Monday. "We didn't throw or catch the ball well today," he said. "You usually expect to have a day where the intensity is not very good after taking a week off, but at least it was intense today." Noting the cold, Holtz said: "Winter practice has gone well.

Now I'm looking forward to spring practice. I knew we were going to have a green team but I never thought we'd have a blue one." Holtz singled out the play of running backs Nathan Jones and Billy Warren, as well as defensive tackles Jim Kingsby and Bobby King. Defensive coordinator Don Lindsey also praised Kingsby. "One of these days, Kingsby is going to be the best football player in the line Arkansas has ever had," Lindsey predicted. Fullback Eddie White returned to drills after missing several workouts.

# Sports briefs

## UH baseball squad sweeps Minnesota

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — The University of Houston improved its record to 26-2 with a doubleheader sweep over the Minnesota Golden Gophers, 7-4 and 3-1. Bill Pivnicka's two-run single in the third inning for the Gophers Monday broke Cougar pitcher Doug Drabek's run of consecutive shutout innings at 0-5, tying a 32-year-old school record. Drabek gave up seven hits and struck out five to get his sixth victory of the season. Riley Epps hit his fourth home run of the year for the Cougars in the third inning to give Houston a 5-2 lead. In the second game, Corky Windell's run-scoring single in the third and back-to-back RBI singles by Kelly Guthrie and

Epps in the fourth supplied all the offense needed by the Cougars. Greg Brinkman, 4-0, got the win. Minnesota's record fell to 1-4.

## ATHLETES HONORED

**United Press International**  
Einar Vilhjalmsson of the Texas Longhorns and Karen Gorham of the Arkansas Razorbacks have been named Southwest Conference spring sports athletes of the week. Vilhjalmsson, a sophomore, threw the javelin 279.3 last weekend in a triangular meet at

Los Angeles. The throw is best ever recorded by a Southwest Conference athlete, bettering the throw of 264-10 by Texas' Saggi Busha in 1973. Gorham, a diver for the Razorbacks, placed seventh in the 1-meter and sixth in the 3-meter events in last weekend's NCAA swimming and diving championships at Lincoln, Neb. Her performance helped bring her all-America status for the fourth consecutive year.

## ASTROS TOP REDS

**United Press International**  
TAMPA, Fla. — Rookie left-

hander Bill Scherrer walked the bases loaded in the ninth inning to give the Houston Astros a 3-2 victory over Cincinnati in exhibition baseball. The loss Monday ended a four-game winning streak for the Reds, who were limited to eight hits by four Houston pitchers. A double by Dick Thon, an infield hit by Tony Scott and an intentional walk to Bill Doran preceded the walk to Knight in the ninth. Bruce Berenyi pitched the first six innings for the Reds and gave up two runs and seven hits, walking two and striking out seven.

## NM State plans league change

**United Press International**  
LAS CRUCES, N.M. — The commissioner of the Missouri Valley Conference said he believes the 1984 defection of New Mexico State University to the Pacific Coast Athletic Association will be beneficial for all concerned. New Mexico State University President Gerald Thomas said Monday his school plans to leave the MVC on Dec. 31, 1983, to join the nine-member PCAA. He said the school has had concerns about the 1-AA status of even of the 10 Missouri Valley Conference members, logistics problems and the continuing rise in transportation costs. "We have announced our intentions for the nine months in advance in order to make the transition easier for all concerned, and in recognition of the lead time built into scheduling for basketball," Thomas said. MVC Commissioner Dick Martin said the Aggies' withdrawal will not result in any immediate changes in the conference structure. NMSU, which becomes the 10th member of the conference, will compete in basketball, swimming, golf, tennis and track and field the winter and spring of 1984. Pending the availability of scheduling, NMSU also will compete for the 1984 football title and the conference berth in the California Bowl, which annually pits the PCAA champ against the winner of the Mid-America Conference. Members of the 14-year-old PCAA include California State-Fresno, Fresno State, California-Santa Barbara, San Jose State and University of Pacific, all charter members of the league, and California State-Fullerton, California-Irvine, Utah State and Nevada-Las Vegas.

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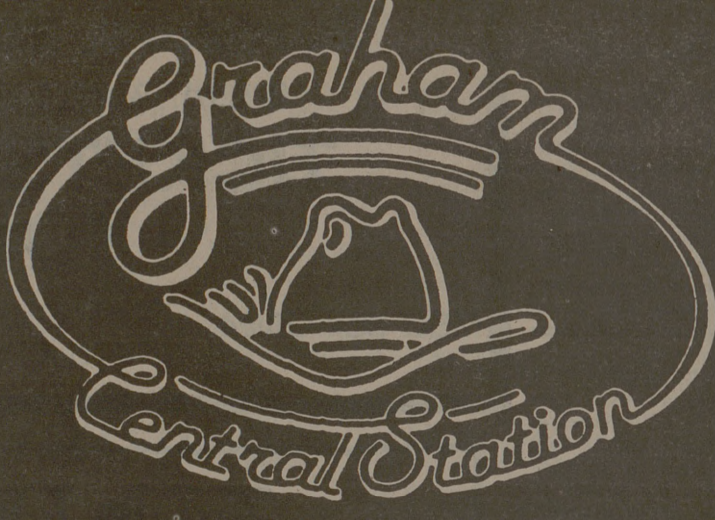
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