

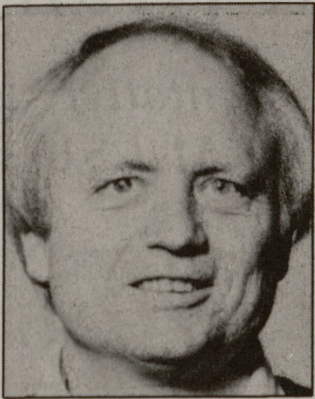
Texas A&M

# The Battalion Sports

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## Arkansas State coach says Indians must play 'perfectly' against A&M

John P. Lopez  
Battalion Staff



Larry Lacewell

*We have some pretty good players and we have a quarterback (Tim Langford) that can execute and run the offense well. He's a good player. In the games that we've won, he's had big nights.* — Arkansas State coach Larry Lacewell on his teams upcoming game with Texas A&M.

Lacewell definitely isn't uptight about Saturday's game. But that doesn't mean he expects to lose or that his Indians will be outclassed by the Aggies.

will be the wishbone offensive alignment Arkansas State will be using.

"Physically, I don't think we can (match up with A&M)," he said. "But we have some pretty good players and we have a quarterback (Tim Langford) that can execute and run the offense well."

"He's a real good football player. In the games that we've won, he's had big nights."

Texas A&M coach Jackie Sherrill agreed.

One factor that Sherrill said the Aggies will have to contend with

only throw the ball five or six times, it's usually to a wide-open receiver."

**AGGIE NOTES:** Texas A&M coach Jackie Sherrill said Monday that freshman running back Rod Bernstein will be the starting tailback for the Aggies Saturday. He added that he will, however, alternate tailbacks at times...When Arkansas State coach Larry Lacewell visits College Station Saturday, he will be reunited with one of the first coaches he ever worked with. Sherrill and Lacewell coached together at Iowa State in the late 1960s. Of that experience, Lacewell said: "I let him coach the linebackers and they made five interceptions. And now he's making a million dollars..."

freshman runningback Keith Woodside will likely sit out the Aggies' game with the Indians because of an ankle sprain he suffered during practice Thursday. Sherrill said he had planned on starting Woodside at tailback against Arkansas State...Sherrill also said preseason all-conference tight end Mark Lewis is improving on his rehabilitation and should be ready to play in the Aggies conference opener at Texas Tech.

"You can't be as wreckless on defense because even though they

## Choking on finals at the U.S. Open

by Milton Richman  
UPI Sports Editor

**NEW YORK** — No matter what else you heard, Ivan Lendl didn't choke during Sunday's U.S. Open final. He gagged and the way he was playing, he should've.

To me, it looked as if he simply quit cold because he got so frustrated and disgusted. Remind you of somebody else? He does me. I'll let you know the Czechoslovakian equivalent of "no mas" as soon as I find out myself.

Understandably, Jimmy Connors tip-toed around the whole subject. He evaded it beautifully and you couldn't really blame him considering the circumstances.

With five U.S. Open tennis titles and two of them in a row under his belt, what would be the point in demeaning the man he had just beaten for the second straight year, 6-3, 6-7, 75, 6-0, before a capacity crowd of 20,575 that was all for him Sunday at the National Tennis Center.

"I'm not saying he rolled over," Connors chose his words carefully, repeating those last two only because one of his questioners in the interview area had used them. "I'm saying he was a little dejected."

Connors was putting it mildly.

The second-seeded, powerhitting 23-year-old Czech appeared to have him on the run for a while when he won the second-set tie-breaker, 7-2, to even their match and then ran off a quick 5-3 lead in the third set. Reminded that Lendl has never won a Grand Slam event even though he has made more than \$4 million and won 33 other titles, Connors was asked whether he thought Lendl chokes on the big ones.

"I think you're jumping on him a little too hard," Connors said. "He is a little bit lax in the final. I suppose you could say

that because he has never won one. But I don't think 'choking' is the right word."

Until Sunday's final with Connors, Lendl had not lost a set and had his serve broken only five times in six previous matches during the Open, but he was never the same after he double-faulted twice in the 10th game of the third set, hitting two balls into the net when he was serving at 5-4 and having Connors at set point.

Connors went on to win the set and Lendl merely went through the motions in the final one.

To his credit, Lendl didn't come up with any excuses. He stopped short of saying he flat out quit, but he admitted the same old enthusiasm wasn't there anymore after those double-faults. He can explain it any way he likes, but the truth was there for everyone to see. He did everything but give the final set to Connors.

"I never really recovered from the set point double points," he confessed. "I should've never lost the third set."

What about the way he sleepwalked through the final set? How could he account for that? He and Connors went to duce eight times before Connors wrapped it all up but what did Lendl have to say about how easily Connors put him away in the final set otherwise? "Lendl confessed.

He was asked about his mental toughness, or rather his lack of it, particularly in this latest confrontation with Connors, who he had beaten three times previously, and he answered that one also.

"I think I was tough enough," he said, referring to Sunday's match. "But if you keep doing the mistakes like I did, it doesn't matter how good or how tough you are, you're never gonna win."

## OSU well aware of Cincinnati's potential

United Press International

**STILLWATER, Okla.** — Cincinnati probably will be sky high following its 14-3 win over Penn State, Oklahoma State coach Jim Johnson says, but at least his Cowboys will have a better idea of what to expect than they did against North Texas State.

"It will be interesting," he said of this week's game against the Bearcats. "I have a feeling they will be sky high."

He made the statement shortly after both the Cincinnati win and his own team's season-opening 20-13 victory over the North Texas Eagles.

Johnson had said earlier most coaches agreed college football teams make their most improvement between the first and second games of the season.

Following Saturday's win he said a lot of his team's improvement would be based on knowing

the next opponent better.

"With North Texas State we had to rely on one person's view (an assistant coach's scouting report) of the game," Johnson said. "We'll have a Cincinnati film. We'll know the defense that they're running. We'll know the offense that they're running. We'll know about their personnel."

Although the Pokes were not sure what to expect from North Texas, they were able to compen-

sate enough to win the first game of Johnson's fifth year at OSU. And if not "sky high," he definitely was pleased.

"Obviously I'm very happy with the victory," he said. "I've been telling everybody all week that North Texas State has a very good football team. They're a totally different team than we've seen the past two years."

For one thing, the Eagles held tailback Ernest Anderson to 80 yards on 25 carries before he left

the game with a groin pull with 10 minutes left to play.

A year ago Anderson rambled for 220 yards against North Texas and went on to become the nation's top rusher of the season.

But by using a nine-man defensive front the Eagles allowed the Cowboys to do some passing, such as the 28-yarder from Rusty Hilger to split end Jamie Harris for a touchdown late in the second period that gave the Pokes a 103 halftie lead.

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