

Basketball

Aggies vs. TCU
at G. Rollie White
women 7 p.m.

SWC roundup

Hogs lose to Rice, Villanova

United Press International

Over the past few years upsets may have occurred around the rest of the Southwest Conference, but they did not happen to Houston or Arkansas.

It will be two years ago next Wednesday since the Houston Cougars have lost a SWC game. It had been almost two years since Arkansas had lost a regular-season league game to anybody except Houston.

So it was more than a surprise when the Razorbacks fell to the Rice Owls in Houston last week. It was a first-class shock.

Now it must be determined if this was more than an isolated happening, or if Arkansas has become vulnerable to more and more such incidents within the league.

And it might well be the latter considering what happened to the Razorbacks Sunday. Arkansas lost to Villanova in Philadelphia on national television, 58-54. It was the first time the Hogs have lost two games in a row since late in the 1982 campaign.

As the week begins, the sixth-ranked Houston Cougars have run their SWC winning streak to 31 games, the latest being an 84-58 thrashing of last-place Baylor. A game in which Houston coach Guy Lewis cleared the bench letting almost every member of his team play.

Even Benny Anders, who was just allowed to return to the team this week after quitting earlier this season, saw playing time. In limited action Anders couldn't score, and showed that he had lost some of his Phi Slama Jama skills when he missed a dunk.

Arkansas is at 6-1 while SMU and Texas Tech are at 5-2 and both having new hope for second place after Rice's upset victory.

SMU and Texas Tech will close the first half of the SWC schedule against each other on Wednesday night in Dallas and both warmed up for that encounter with lopsided wins on Saturday.

The Mustangs routed Texas, 105-81, and Texas Tech broke loose from Texas A&M in the late going to pick up a 74-49 decision—a game highlighted by an ongoing argument between the Aggies and the officials.

Texas coach Bob Weltlich said his team had been totally outplayed Saturday night.

"We haven't been dominated like that all year," he said. "This happened to us a lot last year, but this is the first time it has happened this year." SMU has already won 17 games this season.

In Lubbock Saturday night, Texas A&M's

Darnell Williams was kicked out of the game for picking up two technical fouls and Aggies' coach Shelby Metcalf picked up a technical as well during the frantic final minutes in which Tech outscored A&M, 25-2.

Arkansas will have all week to rest up from its double disappointments in Houston and Philadelphia before having to play on Saturday night at home against Baylor.

That should end the Razorbacks' two-game losing streak, but the Hogs still have games on the road against SMU, Texas Tech and Houston and will face both Houston and North Carolina in Arkansas so there are plenty of tests remaining for coach Eddie Sutton and his team.

The key games this week both involve SMU. The Mustangs first host Texas Tech Wednesday night and then will make the trip to Houston for a game with the Cougars on Saturday night.

SMU center Jon Koncak outplayed Houston center Akeem Olajuwon in their first battle this season, but the Cougars emerged with a one-point win in Dallas on a clutch basket at the end by Michael Young.

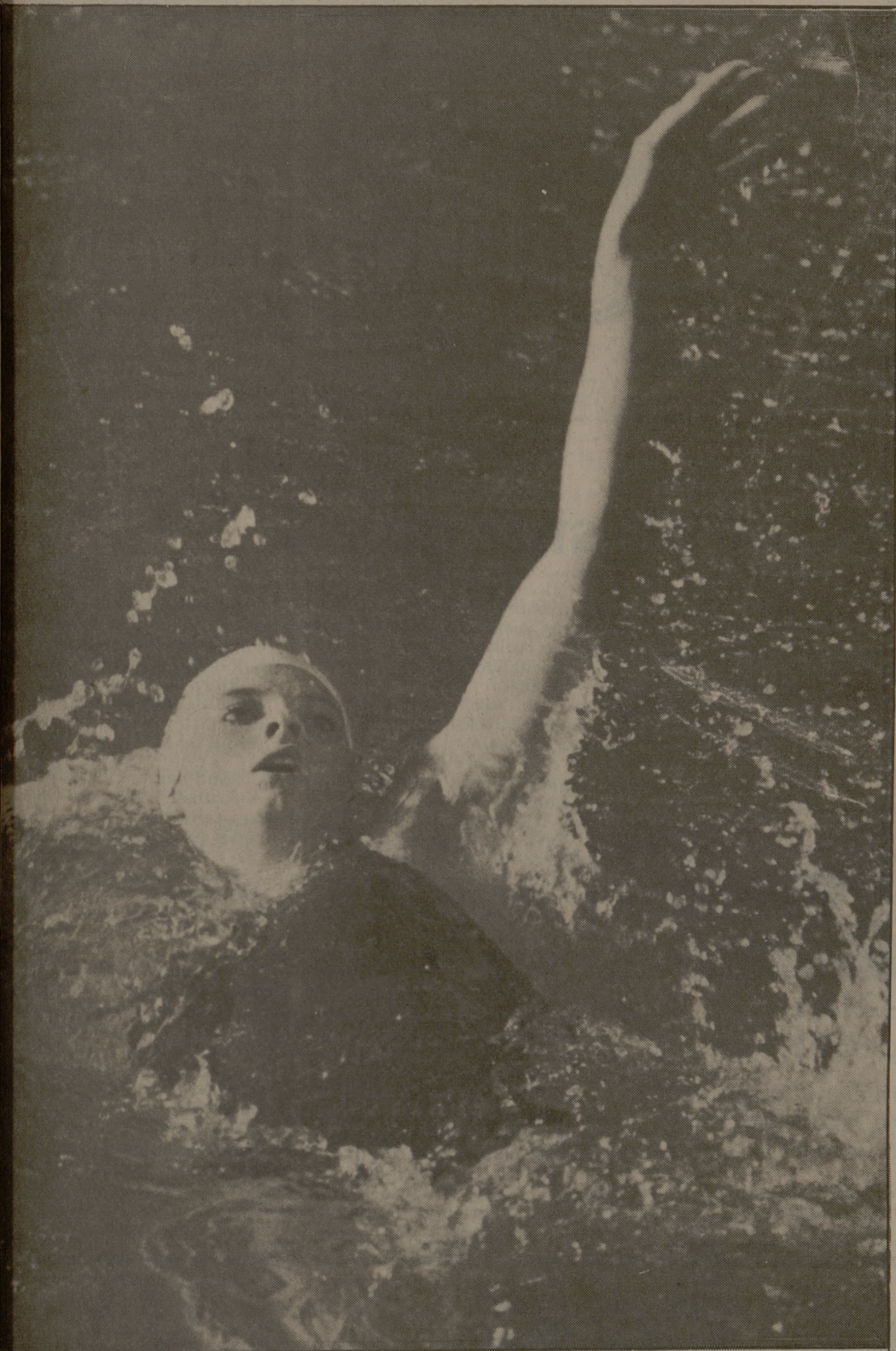


Photo by BILL HUGHES

Jody Tanner broke Texas A&M and 200-meter backstroke in the swimming team records in the 50- meet with Texas Tech Friday.

Swimmers beat Tech, Rice

By DONN FRIEDMAN
Sports editor

It was a clean sweep for the Texas A&M men's and women's swimming teams at Downs Natatorium this weekend as both teams easily defeated Texas Tech on Friday and Rice on Saturday.

When the national rankings were announced earlier this week, with the Aggie men in the 15th spot, it gave the team a boost—a boost that helped the team overcome the flu virus that had stricken some of the team, Head Coach Mel Nash said.

But the ranking also gave fuel to the Red Raiders' desire for victory.

"Texas Tech was coming, looking for an upset," Nash said.

But that's all the Red Raiders could manage—a look, as the men out-swam Tech 77-35 while the woman won easily 78-35.

From the first event, assistant coach Tracy Johnston said, the Aggies weren't going to let Tech's upset dream materialize.

On the lead-off leg of the women's 400-meter medley relay, Jody Tanner swam a school record 59.02 in the 100-meter backstroke.

Tanner, Johnston said, is a sprinter who usually is entered only in races where she has to swim 100-meter or less.

"I like swimming the shorter events," Tanner said. "I know what to expect. I am not real sure of myself in the longer events."

But despite her lack of confidence in her ability to swim in longer races, she streaked to another school record 2:09.83 in the 200-meter backstroke.

Tanner strained a muscle in her back in Saturday's meet against Rice, but is expected to be able to compete in the women's next meet, two weeks away.

Before their swim suits had time to dry, the Aggies met the Rice Owls. Rice, whose swimming program resembles their hapless football program, was no match for the Texas A&M teams.

Texas A&M swimmers com-

peted in off-events, different events than they would normally compete in, and still defeated the Owls by a substantial margin. The men won 68-35 while the women scored 60.5 to Rice's 41.5.

But next week's meet won't be as easy for the Aggie men when they travel to Austin to take on the University of Texas,

the nation's third ranked team. The women's team will swim in two weeks against Texas' women, who are also ranked third in the nation.

Nash says the Aggies' top-dog role is reversed for the coming meet.

"We'll go for the upset next week," he said.

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