

Pumping Iron

A&M weightlifting club has over 700 members

By ED CASSAVOY
Reporter

Grunts, snorts, groans, and moans bounce off the walls of the weight room in G. Rollie White. Every day hundreds of members of the Texas A&M weightlifting club yank, push and shove the different weight machines, searching for that perfect body.

Steve Lumpee, vice president of the club, looks like what the vice president of the weightlifting club should, sort of Conan the Barbarian goes to college.

"As a high school senior I went to my first competitive meet," Lumpee says, "and I didn't know what I was doing. But I came home with a third-place trophy, so I figured to stick with it."

With biceps barely controlled under his t-shirt, Lumpee says the 720 dues-paying members make the weightlifting club the largest sports organization at A&M. The club receives only a small amount of money from the Intramural Office to compete in national meets.

"We end up charging \$30 dues for the first 500 members," Lumpee says, "and then charge \$50 for the next 200 members. If we didn't limit the membership, we'd have 800 to 900 members."

A small nucleus of weight lifters make up the power lifting team. Lumpee says there are seven to ten members competing this year.

"We only took three guys to the collegiate nationals (in Villa-

nova) and placed third overall," Lumpee says, "we just didn't have the interest. I know we could have won with a full team. No doubt about it."

In powerlifting, a team of 13 compete for individual titles and total points for the overall team winner of the tournament.

Lumpee says only two other weightlifters went with him to the collegiate nationals in March. Lumpee says some Aggie weightlifters transferred to other schools or had tough work loads, leaving the powerlifting team shorthanded.

Hiep Nguyen, competing in the 114 pound weight class (the lightest), was one of the three Aggie lifters at the collegiate nationals; finishing 7th overall.

"Hiep went to the Texas

State Open to qualify for nationals," Lumpee says, "and won it all. But I think he was still tired going into nationals, and that hurt his performance."

Robert Winsor, a pre-med student in Temple, took 4th place in his weight class.

"Robert did very well considering he went up against guys that don't study as much as he does (as a medical student)," Lumpee says, "so they have more time to work out."

Lumpee lifted in the 220 lb. class and received an elite total. In powerlifting elite is the highest level of expertise.

Lumpee, one of the top 40 weightlifters in the nation, says there were 13 other weightlifters competing in his weight class. Overall, 130 men and 60 women showed up for the collegiate nationals.

"I find that it is much easier for me to overtrain than undertrain," Lumpee says, "because I have a lot of experience, I only have to train three to four times a week. Of course, as I get closer to competition time my intensity increases and so does the amount of weight I lift."

As for other ways to stay in shape Lumpee says he has moved up to the 220 lb. weight class from 195 so he can eat whatever he wants.

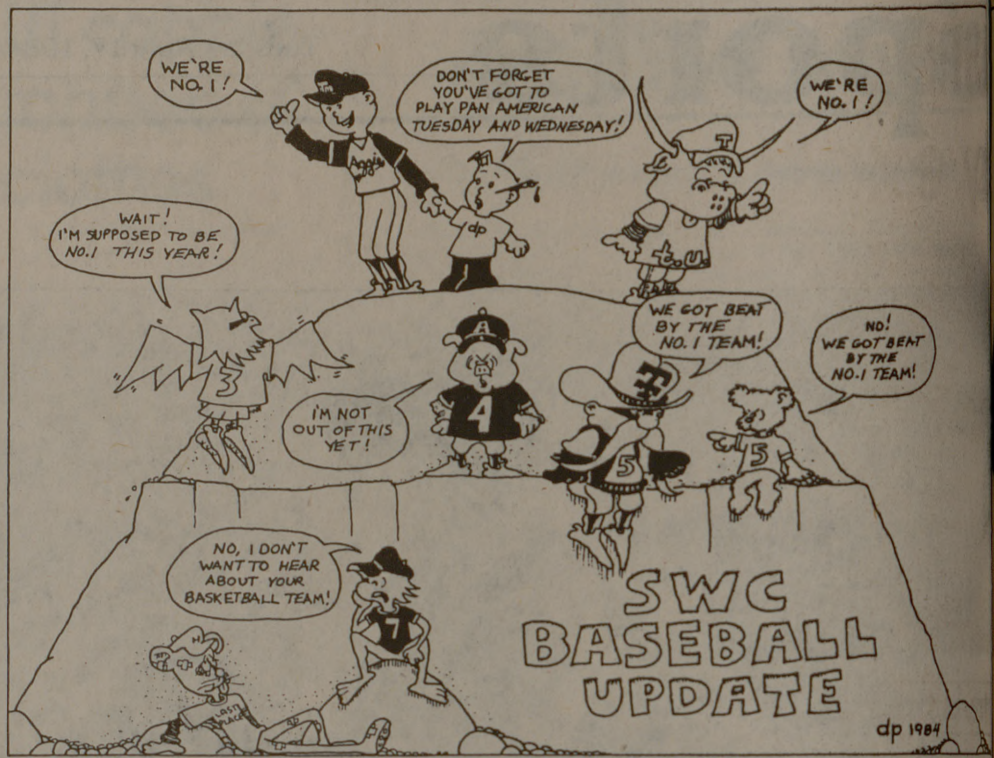
"But I don't eat garbage," Lumpee says, "I can't understand how some weightlifters can eat cake and other junk."

Gesturing around the weight-room crammed with a confusing array of body building equipment, Lumpee says most of the money spend by the club goes to buying new equipment. He estimated the club spent \$25,000 on equipment purchases last year.

"We are limited to just updating the equipment we have," Lumpee says, "because we have exhausted every means of getting a bigger room to add more equipment. We are the only club with a room of its own, so I guess we should be satisfied."

Lumpee, a senior Exercise Technology major, says he is hoping he will be picked for the Junior World Championship team for weightlifters under 23. The world meet will be held in Australia.

"If I don't make it this year," Lumpee says "and get picked for next year's team, it probably will be held in Houston. Just my luck."



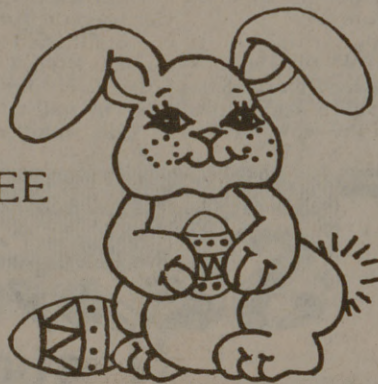
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Crenshaw savors victory in Masters tournament

United Press International

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Savoring the grandest moment of a glamorous career, Ben Crenshaw could feel nothing but humble.

A noted golf historian, he had waited 12 years for a chance to become a part of the game's lore. When his moment finally came, the elation gave way to subdued reflection.

The sense of his own destiny hit him as he was walking toward the 18th green Sunday, knowing that the Masters Championship was there waiting for him.

"It was a feeling of relief," he said after completing a two-shot victory over Tom Watson. "For some reason I started thinking of high school golf. I just thought of all the people who meant so much to me and to my career, the people who helped me and who taught me."

"I won this tournament for my friends. I'm so lucky I have so many of them."

Addressing a packed room of media, Crenshaw made it clear he wasn't about to let his most cherished success get the better of him.

"If anyone in this room knows golf," he said softly, "there's no way a golfer can think he is really something. That's when the game gets you. I know."

"I won this tournament, but you've got to prepare yourself for the next one. There's a lot of tough things that can happen in this game. This is the toughest game to play."

Crenshaw gave credit to his father and to his teacher for helping him to find himself when he had lost confidence in his ability.

"A year and a half ago, when I was playing a lot of bad golf, two people, my dad and my teacher, Harvey Penick, said, 'You've got to start believing

'There's no way a golfer can think he is really something. That's when the game gets you. I know.' Master's Medalist Ben Crenshaw

in yourself again and in your game."

Crenshaw continued, "You just have to believe in yourself, and today I did."

Although he now has won 10 tournaments, and ranks 10th on the all-time PGA earnings list with \$1,853,183, Crenshaw never would have felt complete

without a major championship to his credit. Five times previously, including last year's Masters, he was a runner-up.

At the age of 32, his chances obviously were growing dimmer.

"There's no question I put a lot of pressure on myself to win," he said. "Today was my day. I was determined I was going to let shots slip away."

I tried to control myself on my golf game."

Once Crenshaw took the lead on the ninth hole of the final round, and then surged to a three-shot advantage with a magnificent 60-foot birdie putt on No. 10, no one was able to challenge him.

His final round score of under-par 68 gave him a total hole total of 277.

Watson, twice a Masters champion, had six birdies, including one on the final hole, claim sole possession of second place, but he also had three bogeys in a round of 69.

"It was one of those days when I never came close enough to put any pressure on Ben," Watson said. "I made a couple of bogeys early in the day and was too far back to catch up. I had to have some mistakes, and Ben didn't make any."

Probably the most disappointed of all was Tom Watson, Crenshaw's former teammate at the University of Texas. Watson, who was seeking his first major championship, entered the final round as the leader.

A triple bogey on the 12th hole ended his hopes, however, and his sixth place tie marks the sixth consecutive year he has finished no worse than 10th in the Masters.

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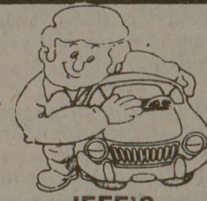
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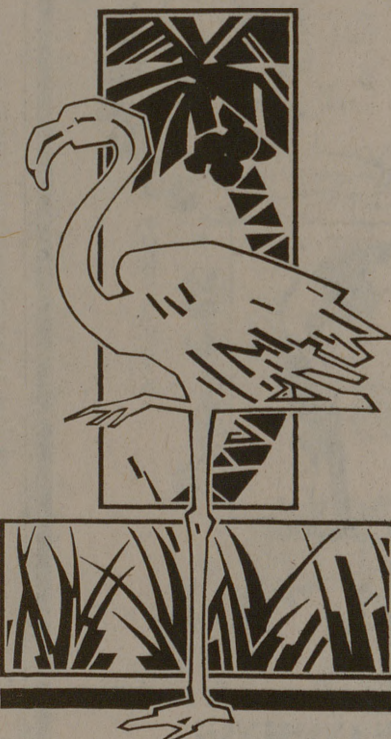
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