

Pitcher makes Olympics

Teams nationally ranked

Ags named All-American

United Press International
HOUSTON — Rice pitcher Norm Charlton was notified Tuesday that he has been selected for the 25-player U.S. Olympic baseball team, a Rice spokesman said.

Charlton, a junior left-hander from San Antonio, earned all-Southwest Conference honors this past season while posting an 11-5 record. His 11 victories set a Rice record and his 2.25 career earned run average is also an all-time Owl best. The 21-year-old Charlton is expected to be a high draft choice in the upcoming draft by professional baseball.

The spokesman for Rice said Charlton received a letter from Jack Stallings, the international vice president of the U.S. Baseball Federation, that he had been selected for the team.

Charlton was to report to Louisville June 11.

Baseball is a demonstration sport in the Olympics this year in Los Angeles. Eight teams will participate in a tournament.

The 25-member U.S. team was scheduled to play a nationwide exhibition schedule prior to the Olympics. That schedule includes a July 14 date in the AstroDome.

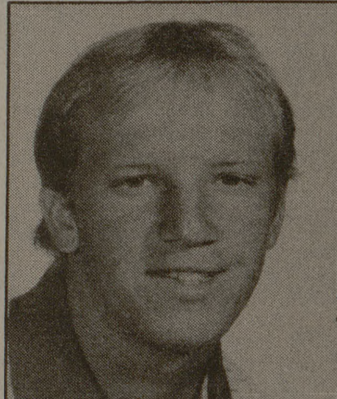
By DAVE SCOTT
Sports editor

Aggies are making somewhat of an assault on the All-America lists this year.

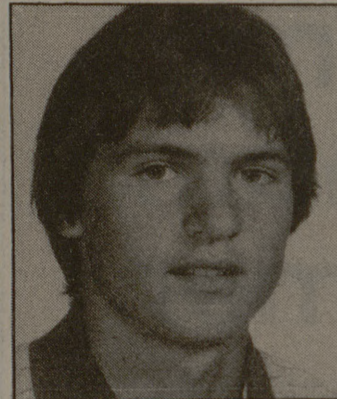
Two A&M tennis team members, Greg Hill and Grant Connell, were named as an All-America doubles team, in golf Philip Parkin was named first team and Jorge Coglian honorable mention, and recently women's softball player Josie Carter was named an All-America and pitcher Shawn Andaya and third baseman were selected on the second team.

Netters Hill and Connell qualified for their All-America list by making it to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tennis championship. They are the first tennis All-America's from A&M.

Parkin is a sophomore from Great Britain who is almost assuredly going to turn pro next year. The Aggie golf team finished 10th in the nation at the NCAA tournament held this past weekend in Houston at the Bear Creek Country Club. It is the fourth straight top ten finish for the team. Houston won the national championship, coming from behind in the last



Greg Hill



Grant Connell

round to beat Oklahoma State and Oklahoma.

Jorge Coglian was the Aggies top individual with a four-round score of 289 (69,79,71,70). Parkin finished with a 290 (72,74,72,72). The highest individual score was a 271, turned in by John Inman of North Carolina.

The tennis duo of Hill and Connell played their first match against the doubles team from USC, who were Pac-10 champions. Hill and Connell soundly defeated them 6-2, 6-1. Their next match was against the same Arkansas team that had defeated Hill and Connell in

the finals of the Southwest Conference tournament. Hill and Connell won 6-3, 6-3. In the quarterfinal match, the No. 33 ranked Hill and Connell fell to the No. 3 ranked team from Georgia.

Hill and Connell also competed in singles competition in the NCAA's, both losing in the first round. Hill to Greg Logan of Utah, 2-6, 7-6, 6-2, and Connell to Adam Abele of Purdue, 6-4, 6-4.

Hill, a junior, finished the season ranked No. 31 in the nation, the highest ever by an Aggie and Connell, a freshman,

finished No. 47. Coach David Kent didn't really expect the play that he got from Connell. In fact, Kent said that he had to convince him to play elsewhere.

"I tried to encourage him to go to Louisiana Tech," said, "because I didn't think he was good enough to play for me. Shows you how much I like him. But Kent does know what he's doing. He directed the team to a national ranking of No. 33, the highest in the school's history.

Kent said he was pleased with the teams finish, but higher goals set for next year.

"We look to go up a notch next year and win the conference. Winning the conference probably a loftier goal."

This season the Aggies finished fourth in the Southwest Conference, behind SMU.

Kent has Kimmo Alonen turning next year after the Finnish Army. Alonen was the SWC doubles champion last year. However, Joe Perry, the No. 8 player on the team, is returning back to A&M.

49ers sign linebacker to contract

United Press International

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. — The San Francisco 49ers have signed Texas A&M linebacker-safety Jeff Fuller, one of two fifth-round draft choices, to a three-year pact, a team spokesman said Tuesday.

The team said they hoped Fuller would fill the role vacated by Bobby Leopold, who signed with the New Jersey Generals of the USFL.

Defensive coordinator George Seifert said the team was impressed with the versatility Fuller showed at a minicamp earlier this month.

Defensive back coach Ray Rhodes added: "He has everything that you look for in an athlete. He has good size and speed, great leaping ability, plus a nose for the football."

The Dallas native played defensive back for Texas A&M before moving to linebacker one game into his junior year. He led the team in tackles that season with 90, including 75 solo stops. He also picked off four passes and had two quarterback sacks. Last season, he had a total of 55 tackles and three interceptions.

'The Natural' not so natural

United Press International

NEW YORK — In the opening sequence of the film adaptation of Bernard Malamud's "The Natural," a young boy is shagging flies in a wheat field.

While beautifully filmed in slow motion, it's the wrong setting. In keeping with the allegorical references that filter through Malamud's printed

work, a corn field would have been much more appropriate.

Because what we have here in the next two plus hours is pure corn ... right off the stalk and ready for shucking.

Actually, it's more of a corn chowder, a potpourri of all the cliches from every baseball film and novel that was ever made. A dab of "Damn Yankees," a bit of "Casey at the Bat," a pinch of the "Lou Gehrig Story," a smidgen of "Angels in the Outfield" and a spoonful of "Highpockets."

Throw in a dash of two of baseball's darkest moments — the Black Sox' scandal and the Eddie Waitkus shooting — and

one of its most glorious incidents — Bobby Thomson's homer — and all the bases are touched.

Malamud's novel is considered one of the best books about baseball ever written, a home run of its genre. The movie is a foul ball, albeit a loud one.

There is, of course, a problem in transposing the literate work of a writer like Malamud to the screen. He deals a great deal in symbolism and what the mind's eye perceives often cannot be put into focus for the naked eye.

This is essentially the trouble with the screenplay by Robert Towne and Phil Dusenberry. Malamud's metaphors and allegories, while provocative in print, are often laughable on the big screen.

Not that the actors don't try to make the novel work. Robert Redford as the hero Roy Hobbs and Glenn Close, who plays the girl he left behind, bring plenty of depth to their roles. Redford is especially convincing as the innocent farm boy dealt a bad hand as a teen-ager who gradually matures into a self-confident man of impeccable integrity.

Academy Award winner Robert Duvall, as a sports writer-cartoonist, and Joe Don Baker, in a cameo role as "The Whammer," a Babe Ruth type, also turn in first rate performances.

The story is about an 18-year-old boy with a natural gift for throwing a baseball who leaves the farm and his girlfriend to go out and seek his fortune in the game he loves more than anything. But a not-so-funny thing happens on his way to the big leagues. He falls for a girl whom he meets on a train and the girl turns out to be psycho, who invites him to her hotel room then promptly shoots

him ... a la Eddie Waitkus.

Now the story flashes to 16 years and the boy is a man who still harbors a dream of playing major league baseball. Only this time his fortune as a hitter catches on with the worst in the major leagues, the York Knights. Reluctantly to give this 34-year-old man a chance to play, the manager naturally relents and Hobbs naturally out to be the greatest hitter game has ever seen.

Hobbs, you see, doesn't merely hit balls hard — he seasonally breaks them. In his major league debut, as he is coming up to the plate a coach to him, "knock the cover off the ball, Roy." So what does he do? Why, he literally knocks cover off the ball and the fielders go chasing a ball yard.

Also, whenever Roy is up in the clutch with someone to prove, we know he's going to hit a homer because a great deal of lightning cracks across the sky just before the pitch is thrown.

Talk about telegraphing the pitch. As a ballplayer, Redford is good all-round athlete, better than most of the members of his acting firm who have starred in films about baseball. That's probably because he played a lot of ball as a youngster.

Producer Mark Johnson and director Barry Levinson have taken great steps to ensure authenticity. "The Natural" in the 1930s, and Buffalo Memorial Stadium, built in '30s, is the backdrop for baseball scenes. And they hired to portray players and managers include former leaguers Phil Mankowicz, Charbonneau and Sibby Sisti.

It's too bad the entire wasn't as natural.

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OPTIONAL BOARD PLAN

Students, on campus, off campus, and graduate, may dine on meal plan during the 1st Summer Session at TAMU. Students selecting the 7-day plan may dine three meals each day except Sunday evening. Those selecting the 5-day plan may dine three meals each day, Monday through Friday. Meals will be served in Commons. Fees are payable to the Controller of Accounts, Fiscal Office Coke Building.

Notice dates: Commons will be open for business on Registration day, June 4. Meal plans will begin on the first day of class, June 5.

Fees for each plan are as follows:
7 Day \$215.00 June 5 through July 3 and
5 day \$188.00 July 5 and 11

Meal plan validation will begin at 7:30 a.m., June 5, Commons Lobby. Fee slips will be required.