

Third time isn't charm for women

From staff and wire reports
For the past two years the women's softball team had done it the hard way. But this year they just couldn't repeat.

The Aggies lost back-to-back games to top-seeded UCLA in the finals of the women's College Softball World Series Tuesday. Both losses were by the hard-to-swallow score of 1-0.

A&M was undefeated going into the finals of the double elimination tournament, which

A&M was undefeated going into the finals of the double elimination tournament, which meant that they had to win just one game against UCLA, whom they had already beaten 2-0 earlier in the tournament.

That was a change from the past two years when the Ags had gone into the finals from the losers bracket and needed to win both games, which they had done.

The deciding game went 13 innings before UCLA's Tricia Mang homered to left ended the game. Freshman Shawn Andaya was the losing pitcher in relief for the Aggies, she finished

the season with a record of 33-7 and was a second team All-America.

The winning pitcher for UCLA was Debbie Doom. She gave up just five hits to the Aggies and struck out 15 in the 13 innings. Doom was the winning pitcher in four of the five UCLA victories. She finished the year 27-3.

As a team, the Aggies had a record of 51-18 for the season.

In the first game of the finals, A&M lost the game in the sixth inning when Tricia Mang singled home the winning run from second base. Three Aggies were named to the All-tournament team, Andaya, catcher Gaye McNutt, and outfielder Josie Carter.

Coach Bob Brock should have known his team was in for a tough time from the very beginning. In the first round A&M and No. 2 ranked California Poly Pomona played for 25 innings, spanning two days, before the Ags won 1-0.

In the next game of the series, A&M capitalized on five errors by Nebraska to win 5-2. A&M then defeated UCLA, 2-0 in eight innings. Shortstop Judy Trussell had the winning RBIs. The team then beat Northwestern in 13 innings, 1-0, before facing UCLA in the finals.

At a banquet held during the week, Carter was selected as a first team All-America and Andaya and third baseman Cindy Cooper were second team selections.

Carter had a .328 average on the season for the Aggies and led the team with three home runs. Cooper batted .356 and led the team with 29 RBIs.

The championship games with UCLA will aired on ESPN at 2 p.m. today.

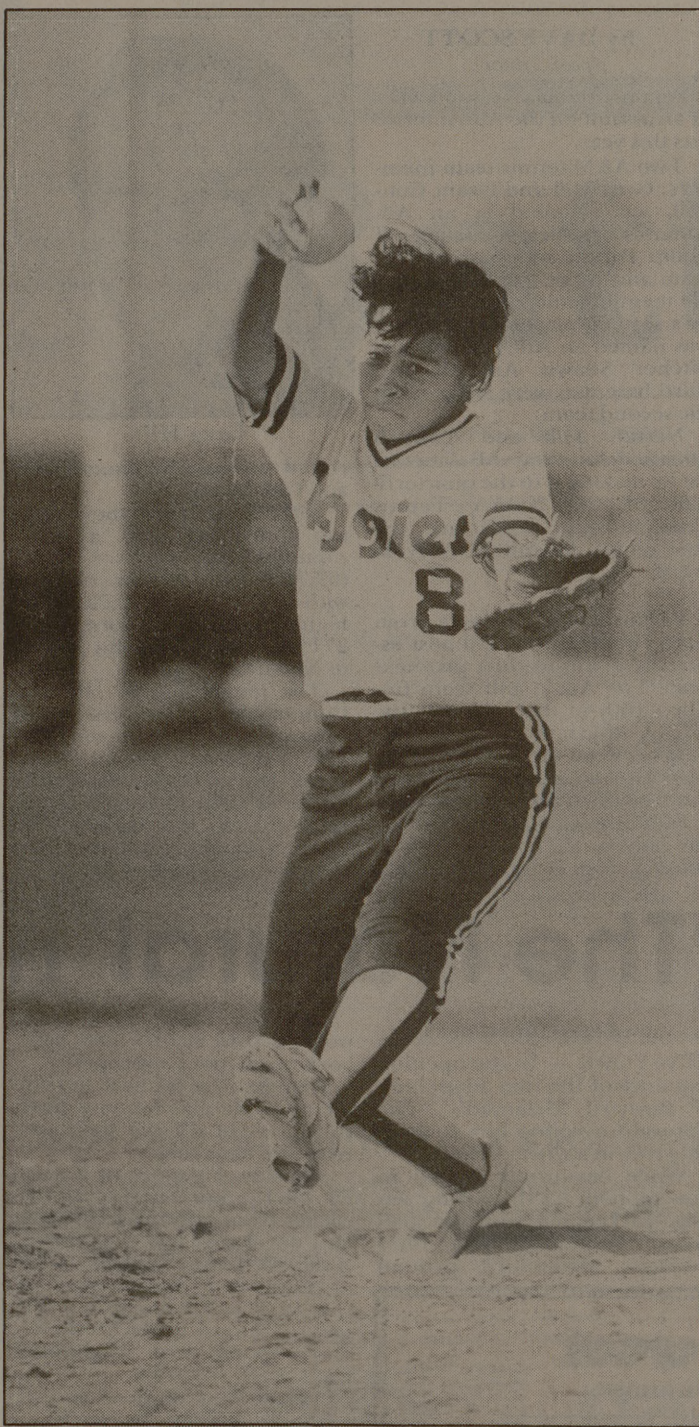


Photo by PETER ROCHA

Freshman pitcher Shawn Andaya lets loose with a pitch in action earlier this season. Andaya had a 33-7 record for the Aggies and made second team All-America.

Ags shut out of Series

By **BILL ROBINSON**
Senior Sports Writer

They say the best defense is a good offense. That is particularly true in college baseball and Texas A&M lived by that saying all year long.

But the team that lived by the hit during the regular season died by the hit in the Midwest Regional NCAA baseball tournament last weekend.

The No. 14 Aggies dropped two-of-three in the tournament eliminating any hopes of giving Coach Tom Chandler a trip to the College World Series as a going away gift.

Chandler, who is retiring after 26 years at the Aggies' helm, finished with a 660-329-10 record. The 1984 team set a school record for the most wins in a season by finishing at 41-21.

The disappointing finish didn't put a damper on the team's view of its performance this season.

"We were just real happy to get there," Texas A&M catcher Steve Johnigan said. "Nobody

would have thought we would get there at the beginning of the season, so it's a dream come true.

"You want to win it when you go, but once you're out of it you have to look at where you've been."

And the Aggies came a long way before being eliminated this season. Coach Mark Johnson, who has been named to replace Chandler, blamed the Aggies' loss on a lack of offense. "We just didn't hit the ball real well," Johnson said. "You have to score more than one run to win college ballgames."

Texas A&M began the tournament on a losing note — dropping a one-run ballgame to a determined Oklahoma City University team, 2-1.

A 30-mile-per-hour wind was the biggest factor in the game, which was decided by an eighth-

inning OCU bunt down the right baseline. Tony Metoyer hit his 10th home run of the season in the second inning.

The Aggies rebounded in game two, dumping Grambling 11-5. It was Texas A&M's first victory ever in NCAA post-season play.

Metoyer and Mike Scanlin each picked up their 11th home runs of the season and Kevin Smith picked up his first home run in the Aggies' 13 hit outing.

Oklahoma State came back from a 5-2 OCU upset to eliminate the Aggies, 5-0.

OSU, ranked No. 3 in the nation, put two big innings together and the Aggie bats went cold to decide the contest in the Cowboys' Stillwater, Okla., home.

The Cowboys went on to sweep OCU and win the regional title.

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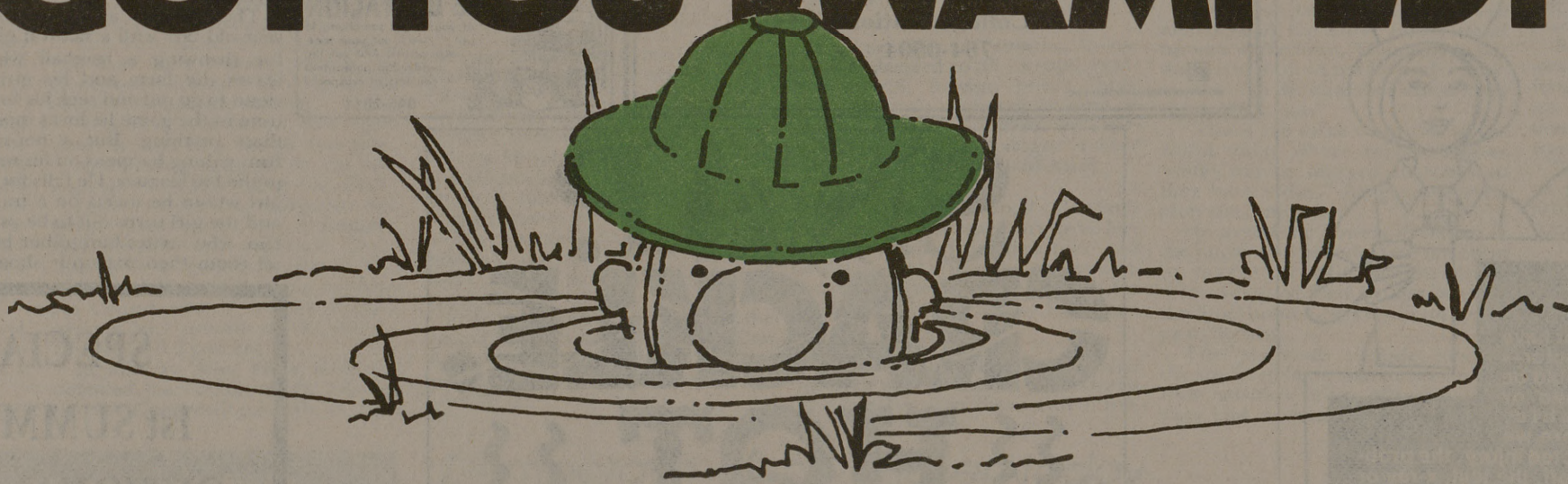
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