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Americans skate to upset tie

United Press International

MONTREAL — Dave Christian, one of America's heroes from the 1980 Lake Placid Olympics, scored with 4:17 left Monday night to lift the United States to a 4-4 upset tie against Canada in the second round of the Canada Cup hockey tournament.

Christian, who now plays right wing for the Washington Capitals, took a rebound from Mike Ramsey's point blast and shot through a maze of players to beat goaltender Grant Fuhr. It capped a rally that brought the Americans back from a 4-2 deficit at the start of the period.

Joe Mullen scored on a U.S. power play at 6:08 of the period. He took Bryan Trottier's pass at the corner of the net and flipped a shot into the open side of the net only eight seconds after Glenn Anderson was sent to the penalty box for high sticking.

The victory left both teams in first place with records of 1-0-1 in the six-nation tournament. The Soviet Union is third at 1-0-0. The United States, considered still in the formative stages in international hockey, outshot the Canadians 8-6 in the final period, aided by good forechecking. The Canadians finished with 27 shots against 24 for the Americans.

The six teams in the series are Canada, United States, Russia, West Germany, Sweden, and Czechoslovakia.

The heavily favored Russian team has been picked by many hockey observers to repeat as winners of the Canada Cup. In the 1981 Canada Cup, Russia embarrassed the Canadian squad 8-1 in the finals.

The Russians do have some question marks in their lineup. Valslev Tretiak, the number one goalie in the world, has retired and has left large skates to fill.

Two-time Norris Trophy winner Rod Langway gave the United States a 1-0 lead at 6:44 of the first period. He skated alone down the boards, split the defense and sailed a quick wrist shot from the circle over Fuhr's glove.

Rick Middleton tied score at 14:46 of the period, taking a pass from Michel Goulet in the slot and sending a quick wrist shot past goaltender Tom Barraso.

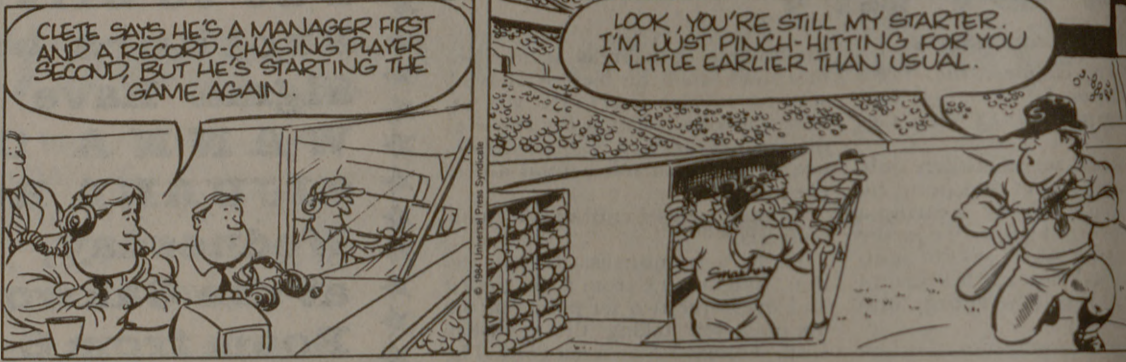
The Canadians went ahead just over two minutes later with defenseman Doug Wilson scoring on a booming drive from the blueline. Wilson beat the screened Barraso with a low drive but the United States came back to tie the game early in the second period with Bryan Erickson converting Aaron Broten's pass from the slot at 1:23.

Canada went back ahead at 5:47 on Goulet's power-play drive. Mike Bossy dug the puck off the boards, getting it back to Wilson at the point. The blueline blast was deflected by Goulet.

The Canadians widened their lead to 4-2 at 11:31 with Anderson tallying from the slot. The Edmonton Oilers' left wing took teammate Paul Coffey's pass from behind the net and flipped it off a startled Barraso.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill H



Ellis says Aggs will be 'under the gun' in '84

By TONY CORNETT
 Sports Writer

The Texas A&M men's golf team is a collection of question marks.

And Coach Bob Ellis won't know any of the answers until his linksters have stared straight into the face of the competition.

"There's a lot of question marks," says Ellis. "I just don't know. We're going to have to put them under the gun and see what happens."

In other words, it's going to take the pressure and mental strain of competition to answer some of those questions.

Golf is a mental game. Anybody who's played more than a few leisurely rounds in their lifetime will tell you that some days are great.

Then there are the days when you want to fling your driver into the water hazard and go home.

It may be caused by stress in the workplace or the rigors of college, as in the case of the Aggies. On those days it takes a monumental effort to keep playing when the frustration of the previous hole causes mistakes on the next.

Last season there was good play from different Aggie players at different times, but they never could seem to get outstanding play from everybody in any one tournament. That's what kept them down.

This is a new season, but some of the inconsistencies of last season may linger on because the conditions are the same — the



A&M's Bob Ellis

Aggies are still college students, golf is still a mental game and a player's concentration still must be split between the two.

"Golf requires a great deal of practice," says Ellis, "and that takes away time from study. It's a very demanding game and it does have a tendency to take away a little bit mentally."

In answer to the question "Is this a rebuilding year," Ellis replies, "Could be. It could be better than that. It's just hard to say. We basically have a lot of good talent that's comparatively inexperienced."

That talent is compared to the other teams in the Southwest Conference.

"If you look at other teams in the SWC," says Ellis, "they have a lot more experienced people. Houston will be the tough team. Arkansas is very strong. They've got a new coach in there from last year and he brought in a lot of

good players from junior col with him. Texas had the best recruiting year in the conference. They're going to be much improved after their new pine take hold. Baylor is much improved. A lot of teams that used to think weren't much at ... boy, they've really upped their programs."

Texas A&M has a success program.

This fall there will be six Ag players, present or former, who will be trying to qualify for a professional tour. Former player Gary Krueger, has already qualified.

Of the six players on the SWC championship team, five have already graduated and the other two are about to.

Ellis takes a lot of pride in his players. "If a player comes to A&M," says Ellis, "plays on a golf team, and gets a degree, there's a good chance that he's going to have success in life. The fellows are students first and athletes second."

The Aggies will play in six tournaments this fall. The first will be the SWC Championship Cup in Fort Worth from September 17-18. Currently they are playing at Bryan Municipal Golf Course, Bryan's Briarcrest Country Club, and occasionally, A&M course.

(In next week's Battalion, preview of the A&M players)

Houston's Ruhle falls to 1-9

Braves scalp Astros

United Press International

ATLANTA — Dale Murphy belted his 29th homer to break open a tie game in the fifth inning Monday night and send the Atlanta Braves to a 6-4 victory over the Houston Astros.

Winner Craig McMurtry, 9-14, was named to start in place of scheduled starter Pascual Perez. Perez was scratched by Atlanta Manager Joe Torre because the right-hander arrived late to Atlanta Fulton County Stadium. It is undetermined when Perez will pitch again, Torre said.

McMurtry surrendered five hits over six innings to earn the win and Gene Carber picked up his seventh save, going the final three innings and permitting four hits. With the game tied 4-4, Atlanta got a solo homer from Murphy with one out in

the fifth off loser Vern Ruhle, 1-9.

The Braves took a 1-0 lead in the first inning off Mike LaCoss on an RBI double by Rafael Ramirez. Atlanta went ahead 4-0 in the third on run-scoring singles by Brad Komminsk, Randy Johnson and Paul Runge.

Houston tied the game in the fifth off McMurtry on an RBI single by Bill Doran and a three-run triple by Jose Cruz.

Ramirez was hurt in the fifth inning when a ground ball by Denny Walling took a hop and bruised him under the right eye. He was charged with the error and had to leave the game.

Atlanta capped its scoring in the eighth off reliever Bill Dawley. Runge singled and went to second on a sacrifice. He scored after Clau-



Astro pitcher Vern Ruhle

dell Washington was intentionally walked and Jerry Royster reached home on an error by shortstop Reynolds.

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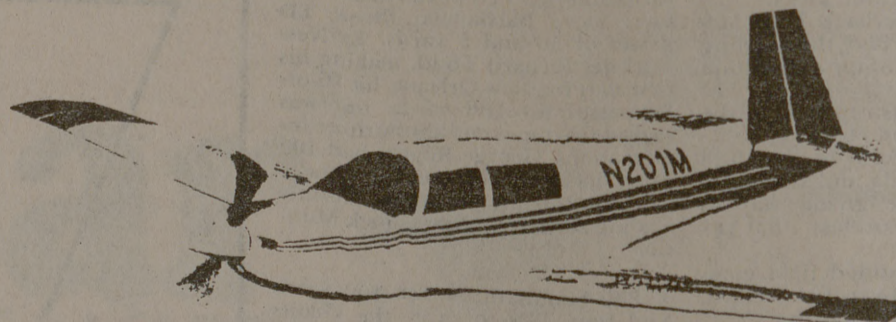
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