

Doty shines in SWC despite knee injury

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The volleyball team at the 1982 Sports Festival had been practicing for two weeks in a gym with no air conditioning. Two days before opening ceremonies, Chemine Doty, a member of the Texas A&M volleyball team, went after a ball and slipped on a "sweaty" spot on the floor.

That slip cost Doty, not only the normal use of her right knee for a while, but a season at A&M. Doty's arthroscopic surgery on her knee made her a red-shirt her sophomore year.

"I had a lot of hopes my freshman year," said Doty, who made the All-Southwest Conference second team her freshman year. "I wanted to go to the Olympics. All that changed when I injured my knee."

Doty rehabilitated the knee within nine months and started practicing for a return trip to the 1983 Sports Festival. Doty did return. However, on the first day of practice, she tore ligaments in the same knee and had to undergo more surgery.

In October of 1983, Doty started playing on just the front row, however, she just wasn't the player she had been.

"She had a great freshman year," Texas A&M Head Coach Terry Condon said. "She got discouraged when she came back last year. She didn't do as well as we had hoped. It's tough to stand on the sidelines when you're used to playing."

Doty said reinjuring her knee was discouraging.

"The second time I got hurt, I was real discouraged," Doty said. "I had worked so hard to come back and then I tore it up again. I

got disillusioned when I got hurt. My goals and priorities changed." This past spring, Doty worked hard making her knee strong again. So far this season, she has had no problems, but still wears a heavy metal knee brace.

"The knee hasn't given me that many problems at all," Doty said. "The doctor says I should wear the brace and I feel more comfortable wearing it. I just don't want anything else to happen to it."

Condon said Doty probably uses the knee brace for security. "She's more secure in her knee, but she still favors it," Condon said. "It's not because it's weak. It's psychological."

Both Condon and Doty agree that spring training was a turning point for the Aggies' starting middle blocker. "She has improved so much," Condon said. "Her attitude is a lot better and physically she is a lot stronger."

"I had a great spring," Doty said. "I felt like I was playing as well as my freshman year. I got a lot stronger physically. I also felt like I became one of the leaders of the team."

Doty said she came into the 1984 season "ready to play." She was tired of riding the bench.

Doty has become one of the Aggies' team leaders, helping the Ags to a 30-3 overall record and a No. 14 ranking by the NCAA News.

"We always need her and Sherri (Brinkman) playing well," Condon said. "Skill wise, Chemine is a good blocker. Her all around game is much better. She is willing to work hard to win."

"I think I'm very consistent."

Doty said. "You need someone like that on a team. I think my hitting is strong. I do something with the ball and don't make that many errors."

Both agreed Doty's weakness is her defensive play.

"She tends not to get over the net sometimes, but she has been working hard on defense," Condon said.

"My biggest weakness is my quickness on defense," Doty said. "I lost a lot of lateral movement when I was injured. Terry has worked with me on defense and I feel like I have improved."

Doty said she is looking forward to the SWC title showdown with Texas in Austin on Nov. 14.

"I really thought we would beat Texas the first time," she said. "I feel like we're a better team than they are. It's all mental against them. We want to win so badly, it affects us. The main thing is that we play like we're capable of playing."

Looking even farther down the road, Doty said the Ags are hoping to not only make it to nationals, but to win nationals.

"I think we should do really well at nationals," Doty said. "Beating San Diego State and hopefully Pepperdine and Texas will start us off in the right direction."

Doty has one year of eligibility left after this season and has high hopes for her future after volleyball. The Seabrook native will graduate in December of '85 with

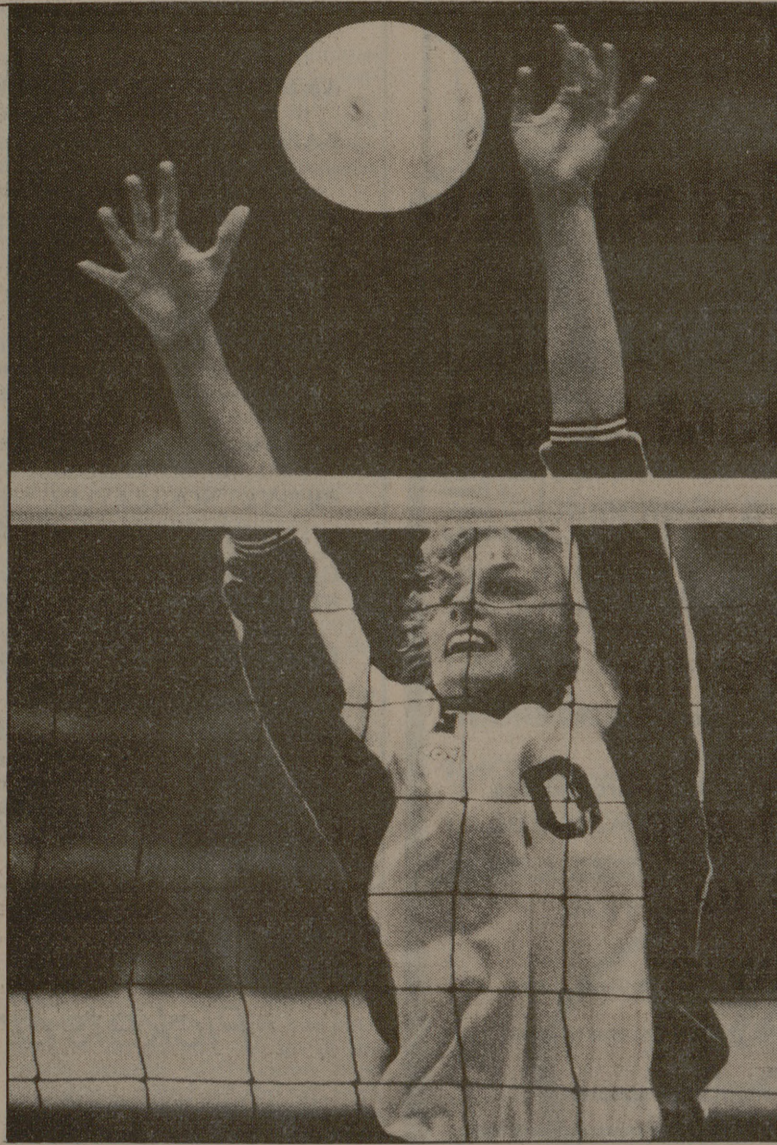


Photo by DEAN SAITO

A&M middle blocker Chemine Doty has recovered from two knee operations in her four years on the Ag volleyball team.

a degree in marketing. She hopes to go into real estate with her father.

Condon said this season still has a lot in store for Doty.

"She should make All-Southwest Conference," Condon said.

"She is in the top of the conference rankings. She just doesn't hit the ball as hard as the Sherri Brinkmans around the league. She's not as flashy, but she is more or as effective as these people. She deserves it."

NFC East is still up for grabs

United Press International

DALLAS — Dallas coach Tom Landry said he expected Gary Hogeboom to start at quarterback Sunday against the St. Louis Cardinals, chiefly because Danny White's left shoulder was probably going to be too sore for him to practice during the week.

Hogeboom started the first eight games of the year for Dallas, but gave way to Danny the last two weeks. Against the New York Giants last Sunday, however, White suffered a severely sprained shoulder.

"Danny will have a hard time working all week," Landry said. "He is tough and has a lot of courage and will throw if he can. But he was in a lot of pain after the game so I don't expect him to be able to work for a few days."

Landry also said Don Smerek would probably start at left defensive end in place of Ed Jones, who suffered a sprained knee against the Giants.

"It will be difficult for him," Landry said. "but injuries are part of the game and you just have to get in there and work. Don is a competitor and I expect him to play well."

Even though the Cowboys are in a four-way tie for the NFC East lead, their play of late has not been the kind to inspire confidence.

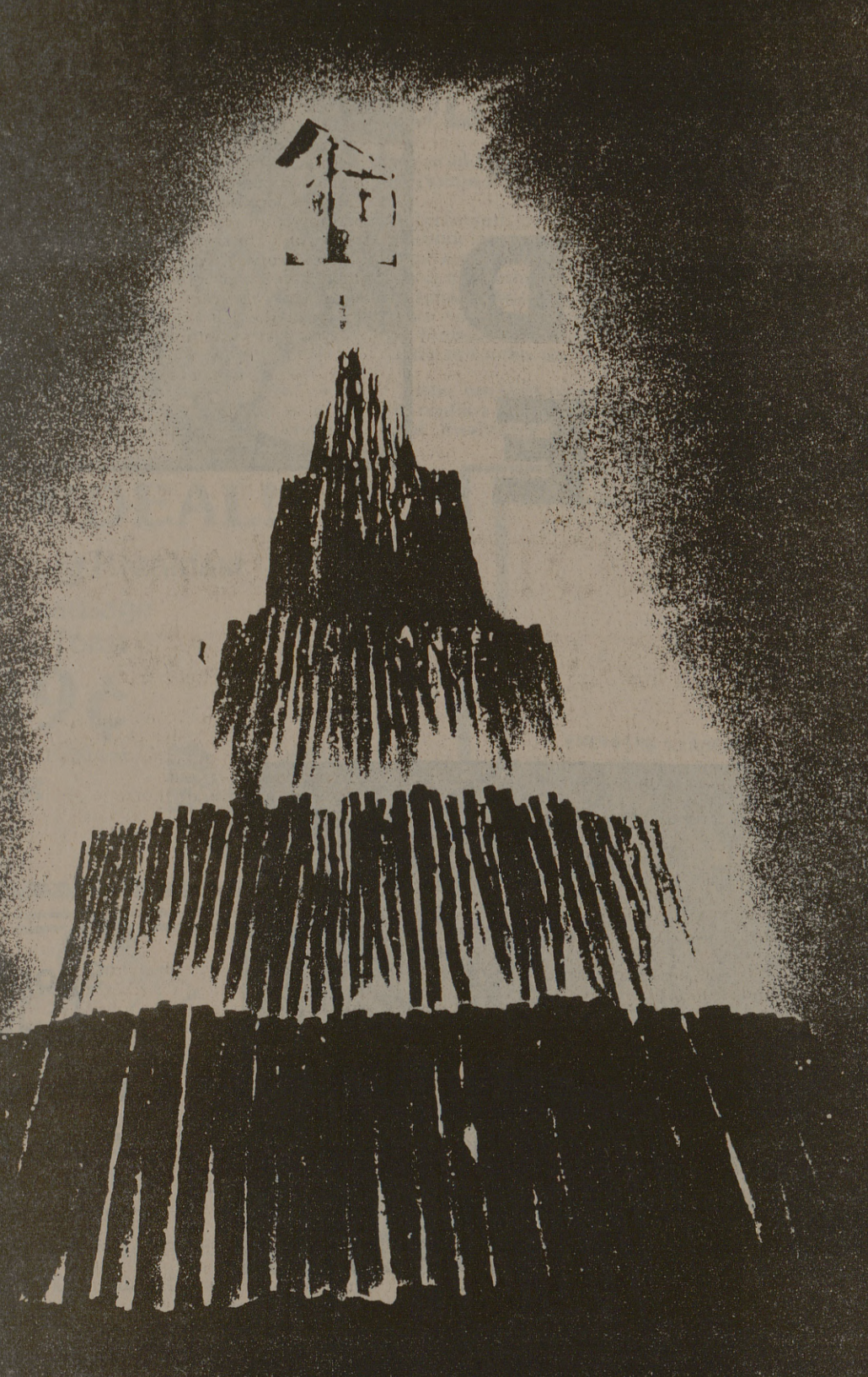
"Who can say what will happen. We know we must play better, much better to get to the Super Bowl."

"Obviously if you lose this one (last Sunday's game) you pretty much have to win the rest of them," Landry said. "We have a tough schedule. When you have Washington, St. Louis, and Miami, you have got a pretty good schedule."

"At the end we pretty much have to be tied for the division lead to make it. But it's a crazy season. Who would have thought all four teams tied at 6-4."

1984-85

C
a
m
p
u
s
D
i
r
e
c
t
o
r
y



Available Now

in Room 230
Reed McDonald
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Students **MUST** bring their fee slip.

They also are for sale over the counter for \$3.50 each.

Departments which already have placed their orders will have them delivered, if they aren't already. They need to sign for them when they arrive. If departments want more than ordered, or have failed to order, they too can pickup at 230 - and they must sign a fund transfer slip when they pickup.