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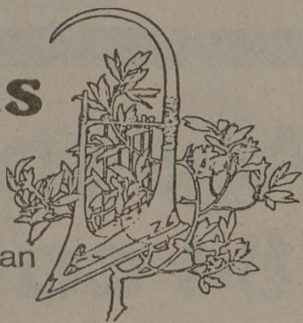
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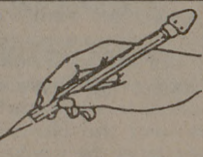
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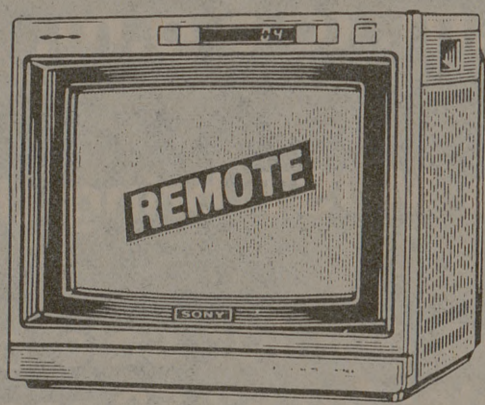
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Ags add victim No. 32 to tally

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

Friday night, Pepperdine gave the Texas A&M volleyball team a run for their money. In the end, however, the Pepperdine Waves were left holding the bag — just like the 31 victims before them.

Playing the California brand of volleyball they are famous for, the Wave struck quickly taking a 3-0 lead in the first game.

But, when sophomore setter Chris Zogota served five straight points to give the Ags a 6-3 lead, the Wave saw its chance slip away.

The No. 14 ranked Aggie spikers easily defeated the No. 20 Pepperdine Wave 15-10, 15-11 and 15-8 in front of 1,100 at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

A&M Head Coach Terry Condon was pleased with the Ags' performance, which raised their season record to 32-3.

"We passed well," Condon said. "Sherri (Brinkman) and most of us blocked well and our defense was good. We just get caught in a couple of situations where we can't put the ball away."

Pepperdine (23-12) was missing two important variables Friday night: their tallest player and their serving game.

Thursday night, in a loss to Houston, Pepperdine's 6-foot-1 middle blocker Debbie Spangler dislocated her shoulder, forcing the Wave to alter their lineup.

"That's the first time we've gone with that lineup," Pepperdine Head Coach Nina Matthies said. "We're a real small group and with this lineup we're just not as strong as we were. I think when we're healthy, we're evenly matched with A&M."

Condon agreed that Spangler's absence hurt the Wave.

"If they were all healthy, it would have been a real good match," Condon said. "Pepperdine played good defense. They play a lot like Texas — they're that caliber of team, and that's what we (A&M) need to play."

Pepperdine must have also left their serving game in Houston. The Wave committed 12 serving errors for the match.

"I think the serving errors are due to the fact that the kids are trying to

push too hard," Matthies said.

The Ags said they were expecting a much tougher match.

"They were pretty good," A&M middle blocker Sherri Brinkman said. "When we heard Houston beat them we thought 'fun time'."

"I expected them to be a little bit better than they were," A&M outside attacker Margaret Spence said.

The Ags handled the hard spikes of the Wave, especially those of Pepperdine outside hitter Sue McDonald, with ease.

"Without a pass, you can't run a play," Brinkman said. "We worked well off of each other and had fun, so we played well."

Aggie middle blocker Chemine Doty, among others, passed well.

"I don't know what it was," Doty said. "I just relaxed. I passed and didn't worry about it. I think the past week's practices helped a lot."

The Ags did run into a few problems in the middle of the second game.

"We made a couple of bad passes," Condon said. "We started to tense up and when we do that we tend to make a few more mistakes. They (A&M) came out of it, which is nice to see. A team like Pepperdine can come up and beat you."

"We don't like the little ruts we get into," Spence said. "It gets paceless."

Tonight in the final home game, the Ags take on Texas Tech at G. Rollie White Coliseum at 7:30 p.m.

The Red Raiders played the Ags tough in Lubbock on Oct. 21 and even though the Ags won, they feel they have something to prove to Tech.

"We need to show them some things," Doty said. "They've made some comments that we're not a very good team. We need a good strong win against them."

"We're ready now," Brinkman said. "It's just like we went in there and thought they weren't any good."

A&M got a big help from Houston Wednesday night when the Coogs upset No. 8 Texas. That put the Ags in the conference lead and makes the Nov. 14 showdown at Texas a Southwest Conference title match.

"Houston was a nice help," Condon said. "We just can't let Texas Tech do to us what Houston did to Texas."

Frogs vs. Horns: magic at its best

United Press International

The Texas Longhorns reached into their magic hat Saturday and found the rabbit had escaped. It had been replaced by turnovers and heartbreak.

For the TCU Horned Frogs, however, the magic remains. The Frogs' newly found wizardry will probably never grow old on their victory-starved fans.

In Austin there were interceptions, fumbles and a shocking final score. In Fort Worth there was another overwhelming performance by TCU tailback Kenneth Davis.

It all added up to the fact that TCU, a team that averaged just 1.5 wins per year during the last decade, is now at the summit of the Southwest Conference mountain.

TCU's lead is just a half game over Texas (The Frogs owning a 5-1 SWC record to the Longhorns' 4-1), but considering the way the conference race has been going, TCU must now be considered the team to beat.

Doesn't that sound strange? The long-awaited Texas-TCU matchup becomes reality next Saturday in Fort Worth. The winner will win the SWC title and a berth in the Cotton Bowl, if it can keep an unblemished record for the remainder of the season.

"This (the Texas game) is the one we've been waiting for," said Davis, who scored three touchdowns and gained 203 yards in TCU's 27-16 comeback win over Texas Tech Saturday.

"TCU deserves this type of game. It's been a long time since they've had a team with a chance to go to the Cotton Bowl (the 1958 version of the Frogs was the last bunch to make the trip). It will be the biggest game of my life."

It will be a pretty big game for Texas, too, which will be trying to regain its reputation as the conference king. After four straight weekends in which the Longhorns had to survive last-minute scares, their good fortune ran out against the Houston Cougars.

A school record nine turnovers, including five interceptions from the arm of Todd Dodge, were enough to do in the Longhorns, 29-15.

"The most shocking thing about that score is that it wasn't larger," Texas coach Fred Akers said. "It makes next week bigger. But each week now is big."

"We lost whatever extra room we had. We are still right in the thick of the race, though, and we are not los-

ing sight of that fact."

While Texas and TCU were going about setting up their showdown in various ways, SMU and Arkansas stayed on the noteworthy record track.

The Mustangs continued to have first-quarter problems, failing to score in the opening period for the fourth week in a row, but got things together in time to down Rice, 31-17. And Arkansas, with some gifts from Baylor late in the game, won a defensive struggle against the Bears, 14-9.

SMU, Arkansas and Houston all have two conference losses and, given the right set of circumstances, could wind up sharing the SWC crown.

If TCU wins next Saturday all the Frogs have to do to make it to Dallas on Jan. 1 is defeat Texas A&M the following weekend.

If Texas wins, the Longhorns still must down Baylor and Texas A&M.

With all the setbacks among top 10 teams last week, TCU figures to move up from its No. 14 spot.

"I don't care what the polls say or anything else," TCU coach Jim Wacker said. "We ought to go into the game even at least. We have every chance to win it. All the chips are on the table now for next week and that's just what we wanted. We've done the impossible week after week this season."

Davis has become the first runner in SWC history to have three 200-yard rushing games in a single season. Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell was the only other one to have two. Davis has touchdown runs this season of 59, 51, 82, 59, 60, 57 and 75 yards.

While Texas (6-1-1) and TCU (8-1) go at each other next week, the rest of the SWC schedule will have SMU (6-2) traveling to Texas Tech (4-5), Arkansas (6-2-1) at home against Texas A&M (4-4) and Baylor (3-6) visiting Rice (1-8).

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