

The Flower retires from the Canadiens

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No. 15 Ags get stiffed by NCAA tournament

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS Sports Writer

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The bad news that the Texas A&M volleyball team had feared fi-nally arrived Monday. The No. 15 Aggies were not invited to compete in the NCAA post-season tourna-

A&M Head Coach Terry Condon was furious that the Ags didn't receive an invitation.

"I think it is totally wrong what they did," Condon said. "I thought we'd get in. I really didn't see them not taking us. Since we're ranked 15th, anyone below us shouldn't have gotten in before us.'

Condon said the Ags will look into possibly appealing the NCAA's deci-

"We have to appeal on the rules," Condon said. "They want you to be seeded in the region and we are." Condon said the chances of get

ting into the tournament, through the appeal process, weren't good. "The chances are real slim," Con-

don said. "But we should make them aware that we're not happy with their decision and maybe it will help some other team, or us, in the futu-

The University of Kentucky is also protesting the NCAA committee's

"They're filing a protest," Condon said. "They're not saying they should be in (the tourney), but they're saying another team from the South should have gotten in. There are 86 teams in the South region and we got six bids. There are 24 teams in the West region and they got eight bids. That's one-third of their region.

Assistant Coach Mardi Alexander said the Aggies were fairly certain they would receive a bid to play in the tournament, since they finished the season ranked by the NCAA News publication and had beaten

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Top 20 teams San Diego State and Pepperdine - both of whom made the tourney.

"We were pretty positive we would get in," Alexander said. The NCAA committee said they

selected the Oregon over A&M based on strength of the Ducks' schedule.

"The strength of schedule is a cop out," Condon said. "Oregon should have been in it. We're not arguing that they shouldn't have been selected. But how can they take Arizona or Fresno (State) over us (two teams with worse records than A&M)?

'The Big 10 (Conference) got two Northwestern and Purdue. Purdue shouldn't have been in there. They're not even ranked in the Top 20.^{''} Even the University of California-

Santa Barbara, with a 19-14 overall record, received a bid to the '84 tournament. The Aggies finished the season with a 34-4 mark. Condon broke the disappointing

news to the team Monday morning. "They were a bit shocked," Condon said. "We all really thought we'd

get it. Sophomore spiker Margaret Spence said the team took the news hard.

"It was a shock," Spence said. "We're very disappointed. With our record and our ranking, we felt like we'd get in.

Condon said that being shunned by the NCAA tourney may mean the Aggies will need to play an even tougher schedule next season.

"We have to play a tougher sched-ule," she said. "We really don't have a choice. We can't do the same thing we did this year, obviously. Plus, we'll be a lot stronger next year. We'll need to play tougher teams."

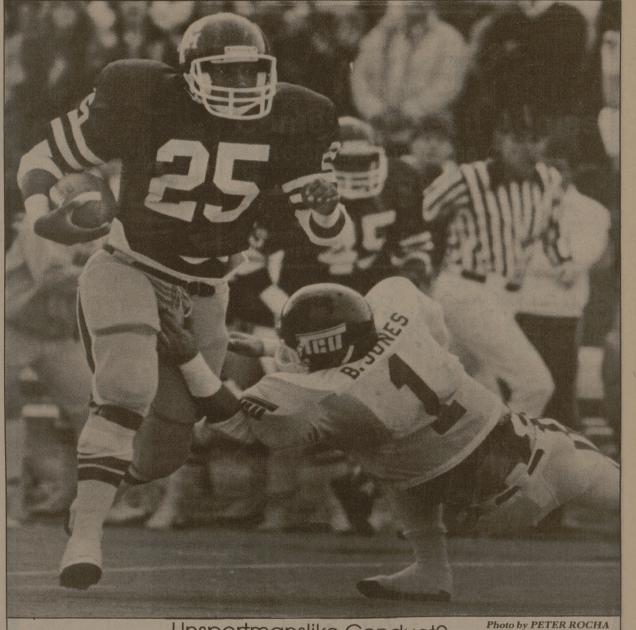
Tournament Pairings

South Region Lamar at Texas Eastern Kentucky at Tennesee South Carolina at Duke UCLA (bye)

Northwest Region Cal-Santa Barbara at Fresno State Purdue at San Jose State Hawaii at Oregon Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo (bye)

> *West Region* Arizona at Colorado State BYU at San Diego State Pepperdine at USC Stanford (bye)

Mideast Region Pittsburgh at Nebraska Illinois State at Western Michigan Penn State at Norhtwestern Pacific (bye)



Unsportmanslike Conduct?

TCU free safety Billy Jones (1) uses a questionable tactic to try and bring down Texas A&M running back Anthony Toney (25) during Saturday's game. Despite the efforts

of Jones and the Horned Frog defense, Toney rushed for 97 yards on 18 carries. Jackie

Sherrill's Aggies will try to play spoiler once again this Saturday against Texas in Austin.

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