

## Astros win duel with Phills, 5-3

Ryan pads strike-out lead over Carlton

Associated Press

### National League

Astros 5, Phillies 3

HOUSTON — Houston's Jerry Mumphrey scored the go-ahead run on the second of two wild pitches by Steve Carlton in the fifth inning Sunday to give the Astros a 5-3 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Nolan Ryan pitched a six-hitter and struck out nine to increase his all-time major league strikeout lead over Carlton.

Ryan, 2-0, finished the game with 3,887 strikeouts to increase his margin over Carlton, who struck out two for a 3,877 career total. Carlton, 0-1, lasted only five innings, giving up five runs on nine hits while walking five.

The score was tied 3-3 when Jose Cruz started the fifth with a single. Mumphrey walked and both runners advanced on Carlton's first wild pitch. Cruz was then tagged out in a rundown when Terry Puhl missed a suicide squeeze bunt, with Mumphrey taking third on the play.

But Carlton's second wild pitch of the inning allowed Mumphrey to score.

Cubs 4, Expos 2

CHICAGO — Rick Sutcliffe pitched a four-hitter while Jody Davis and Gary Matthews homered for Chicago's only hits Sunday to lead the Cubs past the Montreal Expos 4-2.

Davis hit his second homer of the season in the second to snap a 1-1 tie and Matthews hit a two-run shot in the sixth off loser David Palmer, 0-1. Sutcliffe raised his record to 2-0.

Braves 3, Padres 1

ATLANTA — Dale Murphy ripped a two-run homer, his fourth in four games, and Bruce Sutter pitched out of a jam Sunday to lead the Atlanta Braves to a 3-1 victory over the San Diego Padres.

Murphy's drive in the fourth, off loser LaMarr Hoyt, 0-1, followed a single by Brad Komminsk and sent the Braves to their fourth triumph in five games.

Mets 4, Reds 0

NEW YORK — Dwight Gooden pitched a four-hitter and struck out 10, and Gary Carter broke a scoreless tie with a sixth-inning homer Sunday as the New York Mets blanked the Cincinnati Reds 4-0.

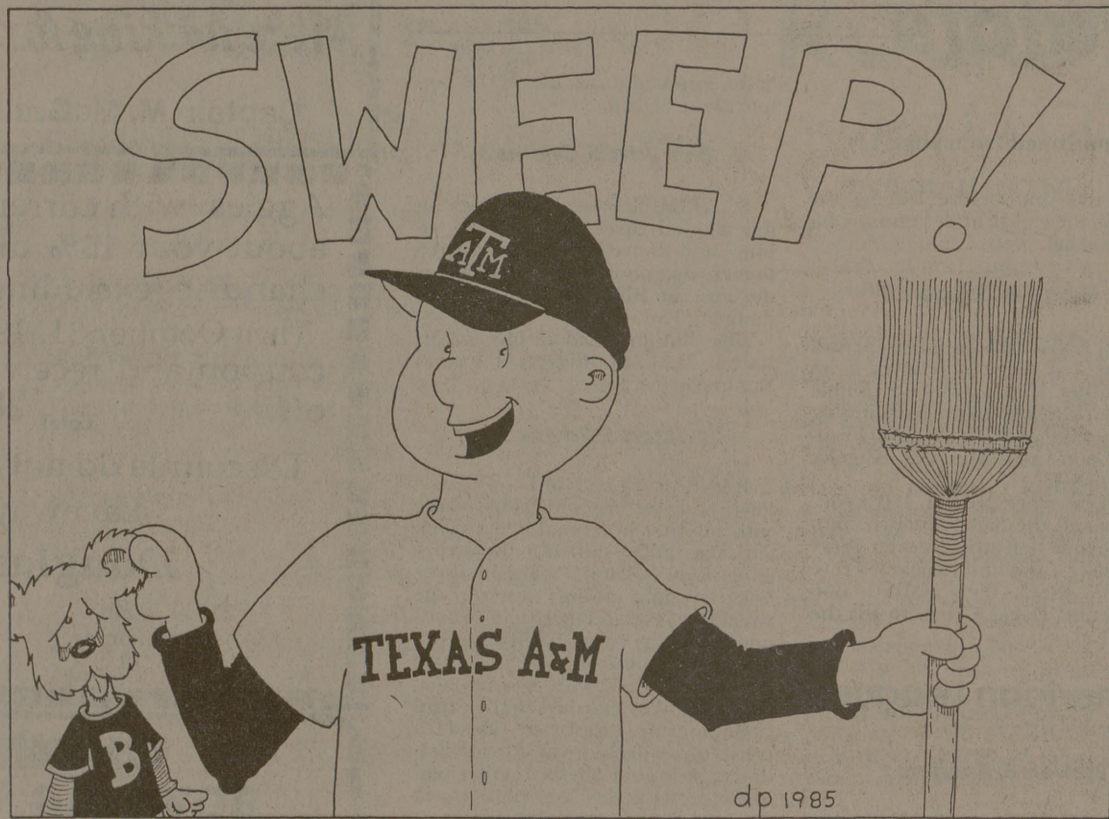
The Mets' 5-0 start is the best in the ballclub's history. Gooden, 20, limited Cincinnati to four singles while walking two.

Cardinals 10, Pirates 4

PITTSBURGH — Joaquin Andujar pitched seven strong innings and hit a two-run single and Jack Clark belted a three-run homer Sunday to give the St. Louis Cardinals a 10-4 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Andujar gave up one run on

See Majors, page 12



## Hogs clog Ag netters' pipeline to SWC title

By MARYBETH ROHSNER  
Sports Writer

Texas A&M tennis coach David Kent plans to do a little creative plumbing in the next few weeks.

Unless Kent's netters can put together a winning streak for the remainder of the season, the team's Southwest Conference title hopes may be down the proverbial drain.

Ranked No. 9 going in, the Aggies suffered a disappointing 5-4 loss Friday to the No. 11 Arkansas Razorbacks. Three of the six singles matches and all three doubles matches went to three sets.

The Hogs wrapped up the dual match when their No. 1 doubles combo of Tim Siegel and Richard Schmidt narrowly upset A&M's Grant Connell and Kimmo Alkio, 7-6, 6-7, 7-5.

"It was a super match," Kent said. "Both teams played really well and I feel good about the way we played."

Kent felt even better about the way his Aggies bounced back on Saturday. A&M took out its frustrations on the Rice Owls, 7-2, bringing the Aggies' SWC record to 3-3, 19-9 overall.

Unlike previous SWC matches, the Ags won two of three doubles matches against the Owls.

"We came back and played pretty good after having that heartbreaker (Friday)," Kent said.

But "doubles trouble" struck the team hard against Arkansas. Only the No. 2 tandem of Greg Hill and Marcel Vos won their match, though the Ags gave the Hogs plenty to worry about in the other two matches.

Kent has shuffled the No. 2 and No. 3 doubles teams several times this spring. For this weekend's action, Kent paired freshman Dean Johnson and sophomore Dean Goldline to fill out the No. 3 doubles spot.

"We're going to stick with this," Kent said of the Johnson-Goldline combo. "They played really well together (over the weekend)."

Though some are predicting a fifth-place SWC finish for the Ags, Kent said the competition is far from over. The Aggies played their toughest opponents early in the season, and now those top teams will face the SWC roadblocks the Aggies have already run into.

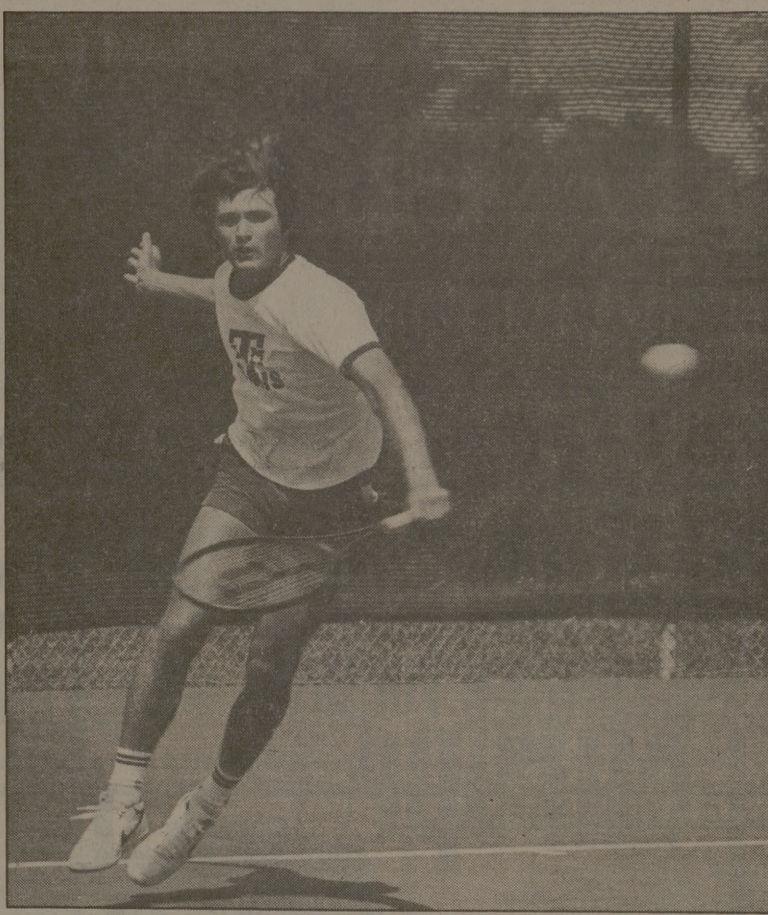


Photo by PAIGE PARKER

Texas A&M's No. 1 singles player Grant Connell hits a backhand slice during his No. 1 singles match Friday against Arkansas. The No. 10 Aggies were edged by the No. 11 Hogs 5-4, but rebounded with a 7-2 win over the Rice Owls Saturday.

Only one conference spot is certain — the No. 2-ranked SMU Mustangs are galloping with first place.

"We're really in the thick of (the competition)," Kent said. "It'll be a close race for second, third, fourth and fifth in the conference. Things should fall into place after this week's play."

Kent said the tough schedule early in the year will ultimately work out the Ags' advantage.

"We've been pretty consistent,"

Kent said. "I see rosey skies ahead."

The skies have certainly been rosey for the Ags' top singles player, sophomore Grant Connell. Connell, ranked No. 8 nationally, is undefeated in SWC singles play.

"That kid is amazing, simply amazing," Kent said of the native of British Columbia, Canada. "He should be moving up in the rankings. He's got an outstanding record."

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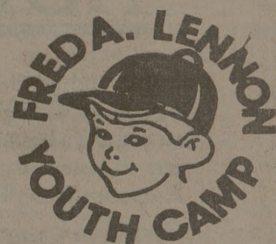
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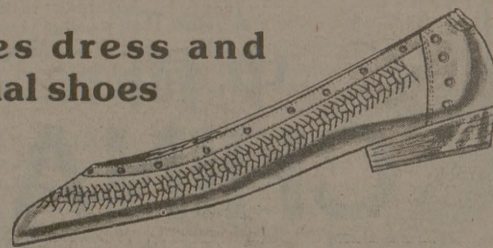
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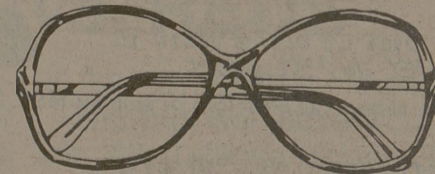
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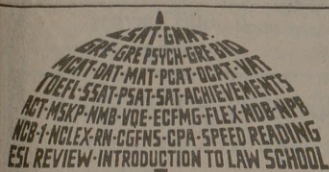
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