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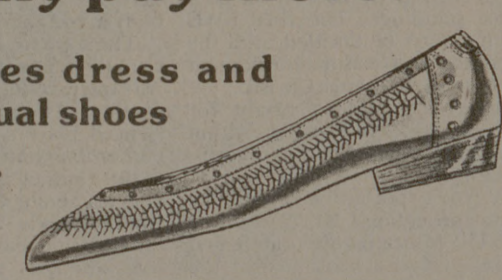
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# A&M bites Rice, gears for Texas

**By CHAREAN WILLIAMS**  
Assistant Sports Editor

**HOUSTON** — If you make an old dog mad enough, he'll eventually bite.

Rice made the Texas A&M baseball team mad on Friday by nipping it 2-1. After a rain out on Saturday, the Ags bit the Owls 3-0 and 15-3 Sunday afternoon at Cameron Field in Houston.

Rice pitcher Derek Hoelscher showed his bite was as big as his bark Friday afternoon. Making only his third start of the season, Hoelscher stopped the Ags by giving up only two hits to improve his record to 4-2 on the season.

That knocked the Ags (35-12, 8-5 in SWC) out of an opportunity to move into a tie for second in the Southwest Conference. For Rice (26-16, 4-11 in SWC), Hoelscher helped it stop an eight-game losing streak.

To add insult to injury, the only A&M run was a result of an Owl error.

In the fifth inning, center fielder Curtis Fox dropped a Fred Gegan fly ball, putting Gegan on second. Mike Scanlin had both Aggie hits including a double in the fifth to score Gegan.

Aggie ace Phillip Taylor (8-2, 4-1) dropped his first SWC game, despite scattering seven Rice hits.

Sunday the Ags were in a do or die situation. A loss and the Ags were in bad shape in the SWC dog chase.

# Aggie lady linksters lead SWC tourney

**By PETE HERNDON**  
Sports Writer

Sunday's overcast skies and 10-15 mph winds added a few strokes to the scores of the opening round of the Southwest Conference Women's Golf Championship at Briarcrest Country Club in Bryan.

However, the A&M women's team used the home-court advantage well and went into the clubhouse with a 10 stroke lead after Sunday's opening round. The Aggies shot 305 for the day followed by SMU and Texas at 315, Texas Tech at 331 and TCU with a 338 first round.

Even though A&M jumped to an early lead, Aggie coach Kitty Holly is not going to start celebrating yet.

"I'm certainly pleased with the lead," Holly said, "but you understand that a 10 shot lead is nothing in a team tournament. If we don't concentrate, we could lose that in the first nine holes tomorrow."

Individually, A&M's Fiona Conner and Texas' Sherri Steinhauer led the pack with a three-over par 75, while A&M's Hollie Frizzell and SMU's Holly Vaughn tied for third one stroke off the pace at 76.

Other Aggie performances included a five-over par 77 by Angela Atkins and Patricia Gonzales and a first round 78 by Susie Faccini.

The second round of the tournament is Monday and the final round is scheduled for Tuesday.

In men's golf action, Steve Elkington fired a final round 67 Sunday to take medalist honors and boost the Houston Cougars to the championship at the 60th annual Southwest Conference tournament at the Hills of Lake-way course.

The Cougars needed Elkington's five-under par performance to hold off Arkansas and fast-closing Texas.

Houston started the day only two shots ahead of Arkansas with the host Longhorns only 13 shots behind. The Cougars were able to maintain the margin over the Razorbacks and won the title with an 898 score, compared to a 900 shot by Arkansas. Texas made up 10 points over the final 18 holes and finished third at 901.

Elkington had to overcome teammate Billy Ray Brown for individual honors. Brown led after Saturday's second round at 2-under par 142 while Elkington was in fourth at 148. Brown shot 76 Sunday and finished second at 218, three strokes behind Elkington.

Bob Estes, a freshman from Texas, closed with a 76 and finished third at 220.

Texas A&M finished fourth at 929, Texas Christian was fifth at 941, Texas Tech was sixth at 955, SMU finished seventh at 957, Baylor shot 961 and finished eighth and Rice was in ninth place at 982.

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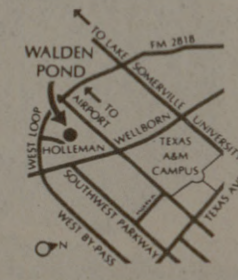
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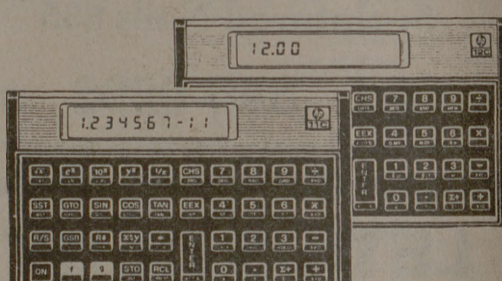
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