



Ags trek to Lubbock for 1985 SWC Indoors

By KEN SURY
Sports Writer

Leo Durocher, one of Major League Baseball's legendary managers, once said, "Nice guys finish last."

That statement doesn't apply to the Texas A&M men's tennis team.

Especially when it competes at the Southwest Conference Indoor Tennis Tournament. The Aggies will be in Lubbock this weekend for the three-day tourney.

This is the only the third year of the SWC Indoors, A&M Men's Tennis Coach David Kent said. And the last two tourneys have been successful for the Aggies.

"We've tied (the University of) Texas for first-place those two years," Kent said.

Kent said this year he's looking for his A&M team, led by junior Kimmo Alkio, to break that tie.

The difference in this year's tourney from the previous tournaments, Kent said, is that the teams will not be playing for points based on tourney wins.

The points earned at tournaments and SWC matches are used to determine the tennis champions after the season is over. The team with the most points is the SWC Champion.

The problem with playing for points, Kent said, is that each day of the tournament counts as a playing date. The NCAA has set a limit of 35 playing dates for collegiate tennis teams. When teams don't play for points the tourney only counts as one playing date.

Besides, fall tournaments are really just preparation for A&M's spring schedule, when the team should be ready to roll up the points.

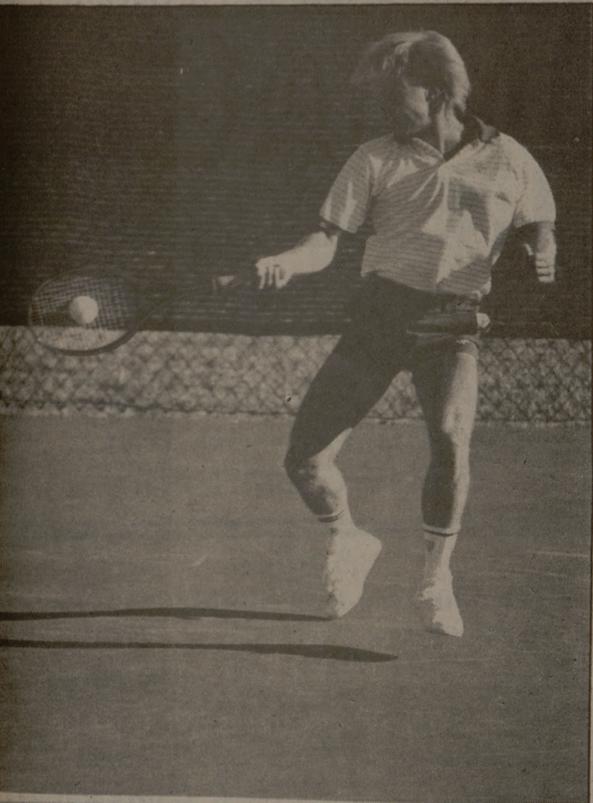


Photo by GREG BAILEY

Texas A&M's Kimmo Alkio (above) and the Aggie men's tennis team will compete in the Southwest Conference Indoor Tournament this Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Lubbock. A&M has tied with Texas for first-place in this tourney for the last two years.

A&M racquetball club spells excitement

By MARCY BASILE
Sports Writer

Racquetball, one of the most misperceived games, is alive and well at Texas A&M despite the spelling errors.

The Texas A&M Racquetball Club, an extramural club sponsored by the intramural department, is

open to students and faculty of A&M interested in racquetball.

Potential club members need not worry about their playing ability says Jean Pavelka, public relations officer of the club.

"The club operates on a challenge-ladder system," Pavelka said. "It's easy. You move up as you win. If you lose, often you move down."

The major problem facing the club right now is female membership.

"Last spring we sent a team to nationals in Memphis (Tenn.)," Pavelka said. "We didn't do too bad there. We came in fifth — without a women's team. Imagine what we could have done if we had had some women."

As with the majority of clubs on campus, the racquetball club charges its members dues.

This weekend the club is sponsoring the 1985 Fall Aggie Open. Divisions include men's, women's and doubles. The tournament will be held in the Read Building racquetball courts.

Michigan will test No. 1 Iowa

No. 1 meets No. 2 in Big 10 showdown

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — That Bo Schembechler is one crafty fellow.

All the preseason talk about the Big Ten Conference football race centered on Ohio State, Iowa and Illinois. Schembechler's Michigan team, which slumped to 6-6 last season, was relegated to no better than fourth.

But Schembechler knew better. And now, so does the rest of the country. The Wolverines are 5-0, ranked second nationally and appear to be victory away from becoming the No. 1 team.

Schembechler sends his team against top-ranked Iowa at Iowa's Kinnick Stadium on Saturday in only the 19th matchup between the Nos. 1 and 2 teams since the Associated Press poll started in 1936.

"We're excited about the position we're in, but we're not quite as surprised as other people," said Schembechler, whose team is a 2½-point favorite in Saturday's Big Ten Conference game.

"I don't think the experts figured we would be in this position nor do I think that any of the coaches in the Big Ten thought we would. In my opinion, they miscalculated."

"I said going into the season that I thought we'd be a better team than we were a year ago," he added, "and I think we proved that."

Indeed they have. The Wolverines own victories over Notre Dame, Maryland and South Carolina — all were in the Top 20 when those games were played — and they have given up only one touchdown all season.

Michigan's latest victory was a 31-0 thumping of Big Ten foe Michigan State, a team that Iowa had to come from behind to beat 35-31 the week before.

Quarterback Jim Harbaugh has made a big difference in the Wolverines. Harbaugh, a 6-foot-3, 200-pound senior, broke his arm in the fifth game of 1984 and was out of action when Iowa whipped Michigan 26-0 two weeks later.

Harbaugh doesn't get much attention in a league that has quarterbacks like Iowa's Chuck Long, Illinois' Jack Trudeau and Purdue's Jim Everett, but he has been effective nonetheless in completing 63 of 104 passes for 727 yards and seven touchdowns.

"Our offense has been good from the standpoint of controlling the ball and keeping the defense off the field," Schembechler said. "Last year, our offense could not move the ball and the defense was on the field all afternoon."

Michigan has stopped its opponents in their tracks this year. The Wolverines are the stingiest team in the country, giving up only 4.2 points a game, and they're fourth nationally in yards allowed at 220 per game.

"It will be the best overall total defense that we've seen — the best one we've seen since we've been in the Big Ten," Iowa Coach Hayden Fry said. "They have it all. They have tremendous speed, they've got tremendous quickness."

"We'll really be fighting the quickness and the toughness and the aggressiveness all rolled into one."

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