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Virus, anyone?

Flu may slow A&M women netters against NTSU

By **KEN SURY**
Assistant Sports Editor



A&M's Kim Labuschagne (above) and Karen Marshall were 17-2 in doubles play last fall. The tandem is 1-1 in spring play.

A virus running rampant through the Texas A&M women's tennis team is not the way coach Bobby Kleinecke intended to start the team's first spring home matches, but he's already looking at the silver lining.

"I'm just glad it's happening for non-conference, and not in the middle of (Southwest) conference play," Kleinecke said.

A&M meets North Texas State Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Omar Smith Tennis Center and Kleinecke is excited about his team's chances for a successful season.

"The girls have a good frame of mind (going into the '86 spring season) and we have a lot of depth on this team," Kleinecke said.

That depth begins with senior Vanne Akagi, the Ags' No. 1 singles player, who Kleinecke expects to have a solid senior year.

Kleinecke said the other eight players on the squad are capable of playing in any of the other singles spots, and with the current virus there probably will be some changes from his regular lineup against NTSU.

The tentative singles lineup for the Aggies is as follows: No. 1, Akagi; No. 2, Kim Labuschagne; No. 3, Helen Christiaanse; No. 4, Karen Marshall; No. 5, Laura Li-ong; and No. 6, Kellie Dorman.

Kleinecke said junior Gave Lynn Gensler will not play Saturday because she is first over her bout with the virus, and consequently didn't practice this week. With Gensler out of the lineup, Kleinecke said he'll also give Akagi, her regular doubles partner, a rest.

The tentative A&M doubles teams for Saturday shape up in this order: No. 1, Labuschagne-Marshall; No. 2, Christiaanse-Li-ong; and No. 3, Dorman-Julie Vaughan.

Labuschagne and Marshall had a successful fall semester as they went 17-2 in doubles matches and will represent the Aggies Feb. 6-9 in Houston at the ITCA Nationals Invitational tournament. Akagi and Gensler are second alternates for the tourney.

The women are ranked 25th nationally in the preseason H.I.T.S. (Head Intercollegiate Tennis Standings) List.



Helen Christiaanse will be A&M's No. 3 singles player when the Ags host North Texas State Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

A&M complex nears completion

New track will enable Ags to host meet

By **TOM TAGLIABUE**
Sports Writer

Texas A&M's new Frank G. Anderson Track and Field Complex will be completed close to its scheduled completion date, enabling the Aggies to host their first meet in more than three years, said an Athletic Department official.

Wally Groff, A&M's assistant athletic director for finance, said the new facility, which has a polyurethane track called *Spartan*, should be completed by March 8 in time for the outdoor track season.

On March 8, Baylor and Texas Tech are tentatively scheduled to be the first teams to attend an A&M-hosted track and field meet since the Aggies hosted the women's national championship in 1982.

The Aggies, who were scheduled to host the SWC championship meet last year, had to pass because of track problems at Kyle Field.

"We had a problem with the present facility (the track inside Kyle Field)," Groff said. "It needed to be repaired. The second thing was, there are only two schools in the conference that had their track program operating inside the football stadium."

"Years ago, that was feasible. Today, it's really not feasible. It's not the best thing to do. You really need more room and more space."

Groff said the new track facility, along with the newly-constructed \$1 million Physiological Research Lab, were top priorities for A&M Athletic Director Jackie Sherrill.

He said the lab was completed ahead of schedule last semester.

The Anderson track and field complex is currently in Phase I of its two planned phases. Phase I includes laying down the new track surface and building restroom facilities, a concession stand and an equipment storeroom.

Phase II, which Groff said is still in the planning stage, would add permanent grandstands and stadium lights.

If and when Phase II is completed, the facility will have cost



Phase I of the Frank G. Anderson Track and Field Complex (above) is scheduled to be completed March 8 in time for the A&M track teams to host their first meet in over three years.

Photo Courtesy of A&M Athletic Department

about \$1.8 million to build and will be paid for on a three-year plan ending in July of 1988.

Funding for the Anderson complex came, in part, from a \$100,000 land gift from C.E. "Pat" Olsen, a 1923 graduate of A&M. Groff said additional funding for the facility will come from the resale of stadium suites for football games at Kyle Field.

Bleachers from the Main Drill Field in front of the Memorial Student Center will be used as temporary seating for the complex until the Athletic Department can have the 3,000-5,000-seat grandstands built, Groff said.

While construction on the Anderson complex is going on, A&M Head Track Coach Charlie Thomas said his teams will continue to work out in Kyle Field.

This weekend, the Aggie men's team travels to Dallas to compete in the 10-team *Dallas Times-Herald* Invitational Indoor Track Meet.

Thomas said the Aggies were pleased with their showing at the LSU Invitational Indoor Track Meet in Baton Rouge, La., last weekend.

The Aggies got stellar performances from freshman 880-yard runner Matt Dunn, shot putter Randy Barnes and Kendrick Wesley in the 600-yard run.

Wesley also was a member of the Aggies' mile relay team, which placed second at the LSU meet. Floyd Heard, Gary Pervis and Maurice Holt combined with Wesley on that relay squad.

The *Times Herald* meet is separated into two stages. Saturday, both a collegiate and a "Grand Prix"

meet, for the top amateur track athletes in the nation, will be held.

Winners in the collegiate competition will be eligible to compete against world-class athletes in the "Grand Prix" meet Saturday night.

A&M's Stanley Kerr, who Thomas had hoped would run in the night meet, is slightly injured and may not get that chance. But Thomas said Kerr would probably be able to run during the daytime collegiate meet.

AGGIE TRACK NOTES: Last week A&M high jumper Ernie Mendez was reported to be ineligible for the LSU Invitational because of grade problems. Mendez, however, did jump at the LSU meet and has been ruled eligible for the indoor season. He is currently ineligible for the outdoor season, but A&M coaches hope he will soon regain that eligibility.

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