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## The Battalion

"a Texas A&M Tradition"

# A&M's home win streak on line Hot Wh

By Ken Sury Assistant Sports Editor

The Texas A&M men's tennis team will try to remain undefeated at home as it battles Rice today and Houston Saturday at 1:30 p.m. to close out Southwest Conference

round robin play.
A&M Men's Tennis Coach David Kent said his .

23rd-ranked

**Tennis** 

Aggies feel confident playing at the Omar Smith Tennis Center, but expects a close match from Rice, which beat Baylor

"We need to play well and improve our (2-4) look in the Southwest Conference," Kent said. "We've had some good wins (this year), but we've just been inconsistent.

For A&M seniors Kimmo Alkio and Russ Simmons, this weekend's matches also mark their final home appearances

Alkio, A&M's No. 1 singles player, is ranked 28th in the country and last Friday upset SMU's John Ross, the nation's No. 3 player.

"Alkio is simply one of the best players."

players A&M has ever had," Kent

Simmons is the Aggies' team captain and he and freshman Brent Haygarth are A&M's No. 1 doubles

"Those are two great seniors," Kent said. "They're like family to

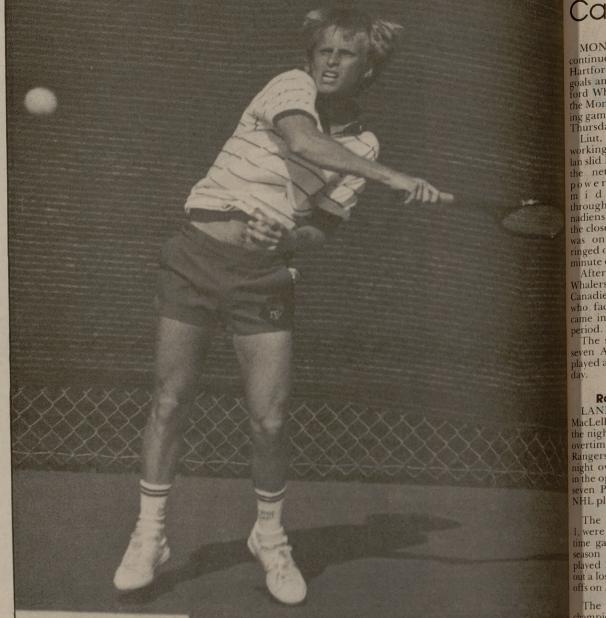
The A&M women's tennis team travels to play Texas Christian today and Texas Tech Saturday in hopes of heading into next weekend's SWC tournament in first place.

Texas currently leads the confer-

ece with 50 match-win points and a 6-2 record. Southern Methodist is 7-1, but in second place because it has only 48 points. TCU ended SMU's bid to finish in first by winning 7-2

Tuesday.
Both SMU and UT have completed round robin play, while No. 17 A&M, 5-1 with 39 points, needs to win 12 of its 18 matches this weekend to claim first place.

The SWC tourney will be held April 25-27 at the H.E.B. Tennis



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A&M's Kimmo Alkio, above, heads into this weekend's matches against Rice and Houston as

the nation's 28th-ranked singles player. The Ridley. host the Owls Friday and the Cougars Saturday

## Olajuwon, Rockets reign over Kings

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's and Mike Woodson finished with 16 of the third period, the Lakers held tory over the Bulls Thursday the play Akeem Olajuwon scored a gamehigh 29 points to lead five teammates in double figures as the Rockets defeated Sacramento 107-87 Thursday night •

in the first NBA Playoffs best-of-five first-round playoff se-

Olajuwon stuffed home the first basket of the game and the Rockets never trailed in the game. Olajuwon finished with four blocked shots and 15 rebounds.

Rodney McCray scored 18 points for the Rockets and Ralph Sampson finished with 16 points, 13 rebounds and two blocked shots. Reggie Theus led the Kings with 18 points

Lakers 135, Spurs 88

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) - Byron Scott scored 24 points and Earvin "Magic" Johnson had 18 assists Thursday night as the defending NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers opened the playoffs with a 135-88 victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

The Lakers, dominating virtually every phase of the first game of the best-of-five series, took control in the opening quarter and were in clear command the rest of the way.

Los Angeles led 33-23 after the opening 12 minutes and built a 67a 97-76 advantage.

nance, the Spurs had just four individual rebounds in the first half - third quarter as the Celica and zero in the second quarter.

Mike Mitchell led the Spurs with 24 points, 17 in the first half. Wes Matthews added 16 points for San Antonio. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar added 16 points for Los Angeles.

Celtics 123, Bulls 104
BOSTON (AP) — Boston found strength in numbers to overcome a 49-point performance by Chicago's Michael Jordan as the Celtics opened the first round best-of-five 45 advantage by halftime. At the end NBA playoff series with 123-104 vic-burst.

O7-76 advantage.

Dennis Johnson, who was Game Game as a measure of the Lakers' domining Jordan for most of the pull Cent scored 16 of his 26 points in away from the Bulls.

Hawks 140, Pistons 12

ATLANTA (AP) - Dom Wilkins scored 28 points an Koncak and Spud Webb mad contributions off the bench a Atlanta Hawks rallied to defat Detroit Pistons 140-122 Th night in the first round best playoff series.

The Hawks, trailing by 1210 point in the first quarter, took trol with a 41-27 second

### No. 4 Ags to host unlikely rivals in No. 5 Bulldog

By Charean Williams

Traditionally, Texas A&M's rival in anything is the University of

But in softball, the Longhorns don't have a team. So, instead of UT, Bob Brock's -Softball Aggies use the

Louisiana Tech Bulldogs as their measuring stick of

"We are pretty good rivals," Brock said. "I think it's because of the situation. They have a pitcher from Oklahoma (Stacey Johnson) who played with some of our players. And then of course, Bill (Galloway) was a former coach at A&M.

"We're a little more competitive with them than with some of the other teams we play.'

a little deeper than in past seasons. Last season, it was the Bulldogs

who prevented the Aggies from their seventh-straight appearance in the College World Series. "Th

The 2-1 series loss to Louisiana Tech in regional play left A&M with a bad taste in its mouth.

And since the Aggies, 29-8, are ranked No. 4 and the Bulldogs No. 5 in the latest national poll, this Sunday's double-header, which gets underway at 2 p.m. on the A&M Field, might be more of a grudge match

than ever. "I hate to call it revenge," Brock said. "Let's put it this way — we will be a lot more ready for Louisiana Tech than we are for some of the other teams. Losing those games (last season) made us understand

But although Brock wouldn't call playing better since the last in it revenge, the Aggie players are outspoken on the subject

"There will always be revenge there," A&M's Judy Trussell said. "They're a big rival, especially because of what happened last year. It's the same circumstances as last season except that this won't be re-

The teams already have played met once this season. The Aggies proved their point with a 6-0 victory over the Bulldogs in the championship game of the Bayou Classic in Houma, La.

But since that time, the Aggies haven't heard from the Bulldogs

They're a mystery team," Brock said. "I can't find out anything about them. Bill must really have them runners on base.

played them though.

Andaya, 15-4, and freshman Carpenter, 14-4, have combi over-power and surprise op "Shawn takes it to them pitch," Brock said. "Then July

on the mound with her da and they're still looking for fastball. After having to carry the

of the team for many games, A and Carpenter are finally

some help from their hitters
"We're showing signs of our bats going," Brock said
"It's been an unusual you

down year in hitting. Theu phenomena is that we're getti hits all during the game, but n

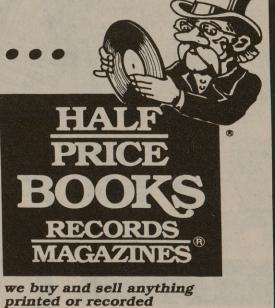
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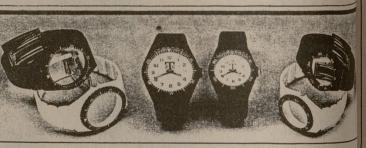
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