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Dedication April 28th  
5:00 p.m. Blocker

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**Sara Alpern** dept. of history    **Kerry Hope** assoc. director of counseling  
**Alex McIntosh** dept. of sociology    **Alice Hunt** ag extension nutrition

April 28    701 Rudder    8 p.m.    Free

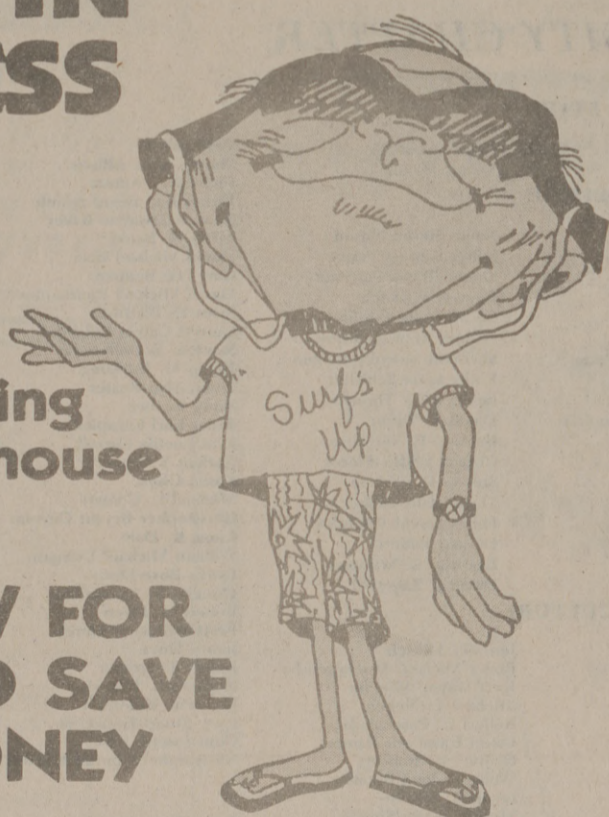
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# A&M women, Alkio earn 1st SWC championships

By Ken Sury  
Assistant Sports Editor

CORPUS CHRISTI — The steady winds at the H.E.B. Tennis Center may have blown the ball around, but it didn't deter the Texas A&M women's tennis team and men's singles player Kimmo Alkio from capturing Southwest Conference titles Sunday.

Alkio became the first player in A&M history to win No. 1 singles at the SWC tennis tournament, while the No. 17-ranked A&M women won their first ever conference team title. A&M's win ended Texas' streak of three straight championships.

The UT women's team entered the tourney in first place with A&M just one match behind, and SMU and TCU two matches back.

By Sunday, the Aggies were up by two points over the Mustangs with the 'Horns and Frogs out of the running. However, SMU and A&M would meet in four finals matches to determine the SWC winner.

Gaye Lynne Gensler scored A&M's first big win with a 7-5, 7-6 (7-4) victory over SMU's Lynda Tate to capture the No. 3 singles title.

But it was A&M's No. 6 singles spot that proved to be the clincher as Laura Liong defeated SMU's Julie Baird 7-5, 6-3 to sew up the conference crown.

Liong said she knew the Aggies needed two wins to either tie or beat the Mustangs, but didn't realize hers was the deciding match.

"(A&M Coach (Bobby) Kleinecke came up to me and said, 'That's it,'

Liong recalled. "But I didn't understand what he said until later.

"I dreamed about beating Baird last night. She beat me twice before. In fact, on the last point, I called the ball out before I saw it land, and then I saw it hit out. It landed about an inch wide."

The euphoria of winning the SWC wasn't enough to spur the Aggies to victory in their other finals matches, however.

Seniors Helen Christiaanse and freshman Karen Marshall lost in close, three-set singles matches, while A&M's No. 2 and 3 doubles teams met quick defeats.

The No. 2 doubles loss especially was disappointing to Marshall and partner Kim Labuschagne, who entered the final unbeaten in 10 conference matches.

"We weren't ourselves," Marshall said of the loss to SMU's Heather Hairston and Jennifer Santrock. "But they played great. They didn't miss a ball. That hurt us a lot."

For Kleinecke, A&M's SWC title comes in his first year of coaching at the collegiate level.

"Oh, yeah," Kleinecke said, "it's a very good feeling. It just tops off the whole year. Our girls showed a lot of guts at this tourney. Their best tennis was played here—both mind and physical."

A&M finished with 64 conference points, SMU at 62 and UT with 59.

The championship, however, does not guarantee the Aggies of an NCAA tournament bid. Bids to the NCAA's, to be held in Austin in May, will be determined by the NCAA selection committee.

While No. 1 SMU handily won the men's championship, the No. 23

A&M made its presence felt. And although A&M entered the tourney fifth in the SWC, it finished fourth in front of Rice and 14th-ranked TCU.

The Ags were in five final matches Sunday, but fell short in all except Alkio's No. 1 singles match.

A&M freshman Brent Hargan lost in the No. 5 singles to SMU's Mark Stylinger 6-3, 6-4 and A&M freshman Chris Stanich was defeated by SMU's Ed Ross 6-0, 6-2 in the No. 6 spot.

The other Aggie loss Sunday came in the No. 3 doubles as Texas John Boytim and Chip Leighon defeated Dean Johnson and Dan Goldfine 6-3, 6-4.

But it was Alkio's 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 victory over Rice's Scott Melville that erased much of the sting from the other losses.

Alkio, who had dropped to No. 4 in the most recent national tennis poll, earned his win by going through the toughest part of the bracket. He defeated the nation's 14th-ranked player, SMU's John Ross, 6-4, 6-4 in the first round, and came back from a disappointing set to stop Arkansas' Bobby Hill, ranked No. 4, 0-6, 6-2, 6-4.

After Alkio's championship victory, A&M Coach David Kleinecke rushed on to the court and hugged Alkio tightly.

"What a win," Kent said. "I've always wanted to win that No. 1 (singles). We never even had someone in the finals in it before. Kimmo's a great player. This is so deserving for him. Now I can go ahead and do a peace."

## Lakers still cruising; roll by Mavs, 130-116

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP)—The defending champion Los Angeles Lakers are showing no signs of letting up in the defense of their NBA crown.

Behind 28 points from Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the Lakers continued their playoff roll Sunday with a 130-116 victory over the Dallas Mavericks in the opening game of their Western Division semifinals.

"We did exactly what we wanted to do," Lakers Coach Pat Riley said.

The Lakers, who ousted the San Antonio Spurs with three similar one-sided victories, never let Dallas get into the con-

### NBA Playoffs

test. "We came out today as we did against San Antonio—hungry," said Lakers guard Earvin "Magic" Johnson, who ran the Lakers' offense, contributing 16 points and 14 assists. "We're playing with the same attitude."

The second game of the best-of-7 series will be played here Wednesday night.

"I respect Dallas as a good offensive team and I expect them to be much better prepared on Wednesday," Riley said.

The Lakers, who scored at will in the game's opening 6½ minutes, opened a 22-6 advantage and never looked back.

"I think they hit their first six or seven shots," Dallas Coach Dick Motta said. "We made a couple of runs, but they were feeble."

Dallas, playing less than 48 hours after eliminating the Utah Jazz, could hit just two of its first 10 shots.

"I don't think the fatigue factor can be used as an excuse," Dallas forward Sam Perkins said. "We just have to be prepared, no matter how much time we had."

"We wanted to start out just like they did, we just didn't shoot well."

After the Mavericks briefly interrupted the Lakers' burst with 10 unanswered points, Los Angeles re-established command and took a 30½ lead by quarter end.

Dallas got within 39-34 with 17 points in the first four minutes of the second quarter, but the rest of the half was all Lakers.

The Lakers connected on 29 of 45 shots from the field (64.4 percent) in the first half. Dallas, unable to find its rhythm, hit on just 17 of 48 shots from the floor (35.4 percent) in the opening half.

### Celtics 103, Hawks 91

BOSTON (AP)—Kevin McHale and Larry Bird sparked a 14-point run to help the Boston Celtics, away in the third quarter and beat the Atlanta Hawks 103-91 in the opener of their NBA Eastern Conference semifinal playoff series Sunday.

Boston, which won all six of its regular-season games against the Hawks, can extend the record Tuesday night in the second game of the best-of-seven, one-round series.

### 76ers 134, Bullets 109

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Rookie Terry Catledge scored 27 points and veteran point guard Maurice Cheeks added 24 points and 11 assists as the Philadelphia 76ers routed the Washington Bullets 134-109 Sunday to win their first-round NBA playoff series, 2-0.

Philadelphia, runnerup in the Atlantic Division goes to Milwaukee on Tuesday to open a best-of-seven series with the Bucks, the Central Division champion. Milwaukee advanced with a three-game sweep of the New Jersey Nets.

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