

plitt THEATRES
Plitt Information
846-6714

Post Oak III
Post Oak Mall 764-0616
Gung Ho (PG-13) nightly
7:30 9:45 **DOLEY STEREO**

Murphy's Law (R)
7:40 9:40

Critters (PG-13)
7:20 9:20

Cinema III
Skaggs Center 846-6714

The Money Pit (PG) nightly
7:20 9:20

The Trip to (PG)
Bountiful 7:30 9:30

Quiet Earth (R)
7:50 9:50

Givens has Aggies back in swing

By Doug Hall
Sports Writer

For the last three months, the Texas A&M volleyball team had grown accustomed to practicing without a head coach — at least until Tuesday.

New A&M Coach Al Givens, whose hiring was suspected for some time but not officially announced until two weeks ago, took the team through its first organized practice since the departure of former Coach Terry Condon.

Volleyball

Although Givens said many of the players seemed to have first-day jitters, he was extremely pleased with what he saw in Tuesday's workout.

"For our first practice, I was really pleased," Givens said. "There was some good excitement. I thought some girls were nervous or a little apprehensive, but overall it went real well."

Margaret Spence, A&M's junior All-Southwest Conference middle blocker, echoed Givens' perceptions of Tuesday's practice.

"It went well today," Spence said, "but it's kind of hard to say. Today was really for his benefit — to see our skill level and see where he needs to take us this fall."

"I think a lot of us had the jitters today, but we'll be broken in by next week. We're not a quiet team, but we were quiet today."

Givens comes to A&M with six years of head coaching experience — five at Arizona Western before last year's 28-16 season at Mississippi. He also has a reputation for being a disciplined and motivational coach.

And despite the fact that A&M returns 10 players, including five seniors, from last year's 26-8 team, Givens said he has no intention of changing his hard-work policy.

"I think we have to be careful not to become complacent with the fact that we have 10 returnees," Givens said. "It would be



New A&M volleyball coach Al Givens, left, instructs middle blocker Stacey Smith during Tuesday's practice.

It was Givens' first practice after taking over from Terry Condon, who left Jan. 24.

Photo by Anthony S. Casper

real easy to sit back and say we're going to win.

"Just because we are A&M, people aren't going to roll over and say, 'Go ahead and beat us.' I'm a firm believer in the philosophy that yesterday was yesterday and tomorrow brings more to do."

Givens also said the decision to leave Mississippi for A&M was not an easy one to make.

"Any time you like where you are, (leaving) is not a decision that's made lightly," he said.

However, Givens said he had eyed A&M for some years and was impressed not only with the positive aspects of the volleyball program, but also with the positive attitude of the community.

"Once the avenue was open for pursuit (of the coaching job)," he said, "there was no doubt in my mind. It was a situation that I couldn't afford to pass up."

In comparing SWC volleyball to that of the Southeastern Conference, Givens said the SWC

commands greater respect in volleyball circles.

"The SWC has a little more notoriety just by the teams that they attract to play here," he said.

Givens said part of the problem he faced at Mississippi was the lack of acceptance of volleyball by the community.

"I didn't have one in-state recruit this year," Givens said, "and that is a problem. No one is growing up saying, 'I want to be a Mississippi volleyball player,' but that is not the case here at A&M."

Canadiens' 2-1 OT victory axes Whalers

MONTREAL (AP) — Claude Lemieux flipped a backhander into the net 5:55 into overtime Tuesday night to give Montreal a 2-1 victory over the Hartford Whalers in the seventh and deciding game of the Adams Division final and advance the Canadiens to the semifinals of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Lemieux picked up a loose puck behind the Whalers net, whipped

around in front, and scored his sixth goal of the playoffs that sent the Montreal Forum into instant pandemonium as the Canadiens piled on the 20-year-old forward in front of the Hartford net.

The Canadiens now meet the New York Rangers, upset winners of two series already, for the Wales Conference championship. The first game of the best-of-7 series is set for the Montreal Forum Thursday night.

Dave Babyk sent the game into overtime with less than three minutes left in the third period with his first playoff goal.

Early vacation for Oilers?

(AP) — Two more hockey teams begin their summer vacations Thursday morning. What is shocking is that the Edmonton Oilers could be one of them.

The NHL's two-time defending champions, the winningest team this season, have been stretched to the maximum seven games by the Calgary Flames in the Smythe Division playoff finals.

Three times the Oilers have won after losing the previous game. The last time they did it, winning 5-2 Monday night in Calgary, they staved off elimination, forcing a seventh and deciding game at home Wednesday night against the Flames.

Also Wednesday night, the Toronto Maple Leafs, at 28-45-7 a worst of the surviving playoff teams, play in St. Louis in the seventh and final Norris Division championship game.

Rockets dunk Nuggets 119-101, lead series 2-0

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's Lewis Lloyd scored 13 of his 23 points in a breakaway third quarter and Ralph Sampson scored 27 points as the Rockets defeated the Denver Nuggets 119-101 Tuesday night.

NBA Playoffs

The loss extended Denver's losing streak in the Summit to eight games.

The third and fourth games of the best-of-seven Western Conference semifinal playoff series will be played Friday and Sunday in Denver.

The Rockets used the third quarter as the turning point just as they did in Game 1 when they rallied for a 126-119 victory.

Houston took its 53-43 halftime lead and outscored the Nuggets 8-0 to start the third quarter for a 61-43 lead after 2:15 of the period.

Denver did not score in the first 2:35 of the period. Calvin Natt hit a jumper to break the drought.

By the end of the third period, the Rockets were in solid control. They held off a late three-point show by the Nuggets, who hit three three-pointers over the closing minutes.

Rookie Blair Rasmussen scored 14 of his 18 points in the second half to lead the Nugget scoring, while Lafayette Lever added 16.

Lloyd's third quarter surge prop-

elled the Rockets to a pair of 20-point leads late in the third period.

Celtics 119, Hawks 108

BOSTON (AP) — Larry Bird scored 36 points, including eight as Boston scored the last 10 points of the game, and the Celtics checked an Atlanta comeback Tuesday night en route to a 119-108 NBA playoff victory over the Hawks.

The triumph gave the Celtics a 2-

0 lead in the second-round series. The best-of-seven series moves to Atlanta Friday night and Sunday.

76ers 118, Bucks 112

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Charles Barkley scored 31 points and Maurice Cheeks added 27 and the Philadelphia 76ers rallied from a 16-point deficit to beat the Milwaukee Bucks 118-112 Tuesday night in the opener of their NBA Eastern Conference semifinal playoff.

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2.50 ADMISSION
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2. Tuesday - All Seats
3. Mon-Wed Local students with current ID's

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226 Southwest Pky 693-2457

*PRETTY IN PINK PG-13 7:20 9:40

*THE COLOR PURPLE PG-13 7:05 9:55

*OUT OF AFRICA PG 8:30

MANOR EAST 3

Manor East Mall 823 8300

*DOWN AND OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS R 7:25 9:45

LEGEND PG 7:30 9:50

*SLEEPING BEAUTY G Sat-Sun Only 7:30 9:50

JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS PG-13 7:15 9:35

SCHULMAN 6
2002 E. 29th 775-2463

POLICE ACADEMY 3 PG 7:20 9:40

SHOWDOWN AT LINCOLN HIGH PG-13 7:30 9:55

THE HITCHER R 7:25 9:45

MURPHY'S ROMANCE R 7:20 9:45

VIOLETS ARE BLUE PG-13 7:15 9:50

*APRIL FOOL'S DAY R 7:35 9:55

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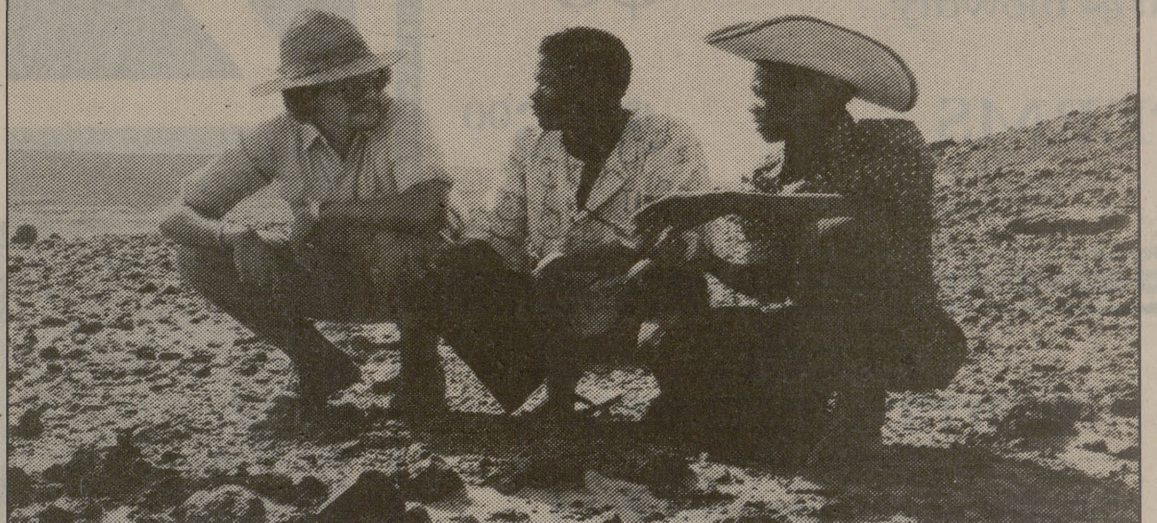
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