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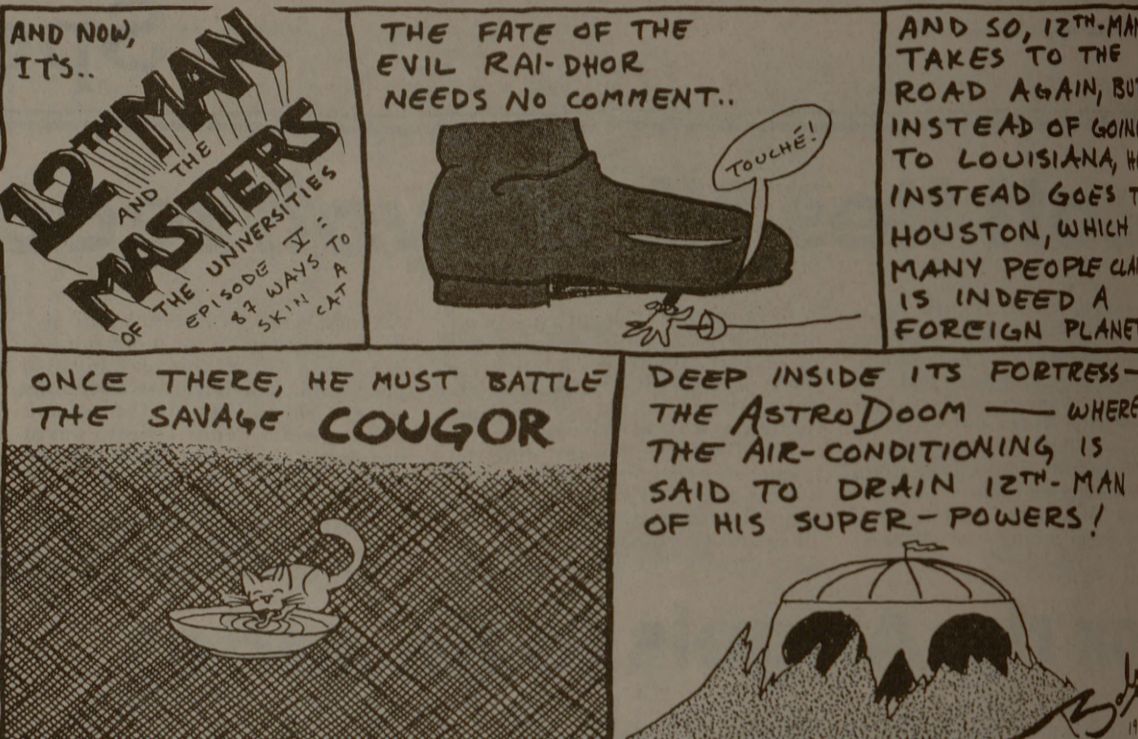
THE FATE OF THE EVIL RAI-DHOR NEEDS NO COMMENT..

AND SO, 12TH-MAN TAKES TO THE ROAD AGAIN, BUT INSTEAD OF GOING TO LOUISIANA, HE INSTEAD GOES TO HOUSTON, WHICH MANY PEOPLE CLAIM IS INDEED A FOREIGN PLANET.

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Ag archery team on target, sets sights on national title

By Larry Keller Jr.
 Reporter

The Texas A&M archery team has targeted its sights on being No. 1 this year.

"There's no one except Arizona State that has a chance to beat us," coach Frank Thomas says.

Arizona State is the powerhouse in collegiate archery, Thomas says, but A&M should be tough with two returning All-Americans and a veteran archer who shot in the U.S. Olympic Festival this summer.

He says the team has been organized since 1977. The ages of the team members range from 18 to 37.

The team competes in the National Archery Association's Southern district. The district is made up of just two teams: A&M and the University of Texas.

There are two seasons in collegiate archery: indoor and outdoor. The outdoor season is from April to about late October and the indoor season is from November to early April.

The two main tournaments in archery are the Indoor and Outdoor Nationals. In the Indoor Nationals last year, the men's and women's teams both finished in sixth place. In outdoor competition, the women finished fifth and the men finished second to Arizona State University.

Thomas' reason for confidence this year could be the return of All-Americans Gary Boecker and Tommy Thompson.

Boecker, a senior accounting and finance major from Houston, says that his goals are to beat Arizona State and possibly try out for the U.S. Olympic team.

Thompson says he also wants to try out for the Olympics and would like nothing better than to be No. 1 in the nation.

Rick Stonebraker, the oldest member of the team at 37, also acts as mentor and assistant coach. He competed in the Olympic Festival in Houston, and was a two-time All-American at Penn State University.

Stonebraker says many of the physical aspects of archery are taken for granted. There are many variables in archery ranging from the way the bow is held to the way an archer stands, Stonebraker says.

"All have to be 'on,'" he says, "and if any one of them or any combination is 'off' you won't hit the middle."

The women's team also is looking to improve this year. Julie Burg is one of six women that make up the team. The senior animal science major from San Antonio took archery



Photo by Mike Sanchez

Rick Stonebraker, an All-American for the A&M archery team, draws his bow and aims during practice in DeWare Fieldhouse.

as a physical education class and was talked into entering a tournament by her instructor. She did better than some of the team members and has been on the squad ever since.

"My personal goals kind of coincide with team goals," she says. "If I raise my scores, it's going to help the team out."

Unlike the Arizona State team, all 20 members of the A&M team are non-scholarship athletes. They have to buy their own bows, which cost up to \$1200, and their own arrows

which range in cost from \$3.50 to \$14 a piece.

The team practices from 5 to 7 p.m. on the field across from the Zachry Engineering Center parking lot every Monday and Wednesday. All outdoor tournaments are held on this field.

This weekend the archery team will host the Aggie Open on the field. Future tournaments for the team are the Longhorn 1200 in Austin on Nov. 1 and 2 and the Indoor Regionals in Austin on Dec. 6 and 7.

Bernstine

(continued from page 7)

at Vanderbilt," Bernstine said. "He said he needed a tight end that could run, catch and do something with the ball.

"Kevin's hitting me with the passes and making the best of the situation."

While Bernstine may seem like a one-man receiving corps, he said he's just part of a well-meshed Aggie

offense.

"It's not any one person that the defense can key on," he said. "Roger (Vick) and (Keith) Woodside are both great running backs. Kevin's a great quarterback, and now we have a receiver that can catch the ball other than the wide-out — which helps open up the long ball because they won't be able to protect the short passes or the running game all the time."

The A&M offense is averaging 428.5 yards per game heading into Saturday's contest with Houston, and Bernstine doesn't foresee any slowdown in output.

"I feel like we can move the ball against anybody," he said. "Kevin has a great arm and we have an outstanding cast of players around him. I don't feel like we can really be stopped."

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