

A&M women's netters take control in impressive 9-0 win over Baylor

By Curtis L. Culberson
Assistant Sports Editor

The Texas A&M women's tennis team overpowered Baylor Saturday afternoon 9-0 at the Omar Smith Tennis Center without the efforts of the Lady Aggie No. 1 seed Gayer Gensler in single's play.

The Lady Aggies improve their season record to 8-2 and go to 1-1 in the southwest conference play after a frustrating 5-4 loss to Texas last week.

Gensler has a possible stress fracture in her lower leg and the trainer wanted her to play just one match, A&M Head Coach Bobby Kleinecke said.

Gensler joined her partner Lisa Keller in double's play.

"I didn't want to disrupt my double teams," Kleinecke said.

Keller slid into the No. 1 single's spot and easily handled Baylor's Mary Lou Castillo 6-1, 6-4. After being down 3-1 in the second set, Cas-

tillo came back to tie things up at 3-3.

Keller committed two consecutive double faults in the seventh game, but took charge of the game and the match frustrating her opponent with aggressive net play and good shots from the baseline.

Freshman wonder Cindy Churchwell continues to play excellent tennis, beating Kelly Harrod 6-0, 6-4 in the No. 2 seed. Churchwell expands her winning streak to five and her overall record moves to 9-1.

After dominating the first set, Churchwell had some problems with Harrod in the second. At one point Churchwell was down 2-3 but she prevailed with well-placed shots and some net play.

Cindy Crawford moved up to the No. 3 seed and manhandled Baylor's Tracie Williams 6-2, 6-0.

No. 4 seeded Susan Williams obliterated Kathy O'Toole 6-0, 6-1.

"She played really well," said assistant coach and medical redshirt

team member Jennifer Jones. "She didn't lose a point the entire first set."

Traci Nix defeated Tamria Wilkinson 6-4, 6-1 in the No. 5 position and Derryn Haygarth, playing in the singles for the second time this season at Omar, controlled the Bears' No. 6 seed Tracy Bailes 6-2, 6-0.

The Lady Aggies also dominated in doubles play winning all three matches in two sets.

"We played well," Kleinecke said. "We needed to win the match 9-0 after that loss to Texas last week."

Kleinecke said he was impressed with the way his team was prepared for the Bears.

"It would be easy to let down against Baylor," he said. "But we took care of it and it puts us in great shape going in against Houston."

The Lady Aggies will face the Cougars in a match scheduled for next weekend in Houston.

Flakes line up for position as SWC Classic draws near

By Hal L. Hammons
Assistant Sports Editor

Over the past three years several factors have emerged as constants at the Southwest Conference Classic — here in particular.

One: Texas A&M will do great.

Two: Texas Tech will do great.

Three: Arkansas will do great.

All three of those would change this year, as once again, the SWC has found a new and innovative way to focus extreme rivalry between teams into a dead heat for about six of the eight spots.

But you never know about this conference. Consider the cast of characters: erratic players like Kato Armstrong, Darryl McDonald, Darryl Middleton, Andrew Lang, and countless others of their ilk, playing for teams like Southern Methodist, Texas A&M, Arkansas and about six others with equal consistency short-



Hal L. Hammons
Sports viewpoint

The Mustangs have a half-game lead over Arkansas with only a home game with Texas Christian and a non-conference showdown with Chicago State (Who?) left. Needless to say, they ought to survive both of those and claim the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

The Hogs are another flaky team. They have far too much talent to pull their yearly choke job in Dallas, but then that's getting to be a perennial observation that has no correlation with eventual reality.

Previous upchuckings have been attributed to lack of talent or lack of experience. This year's team has both. It's even managed to win a few games on the road this year — an especially rare feat.

like it will be critical to three or four teams' seedings in the Classic. I'm tending toward the opinion that Baylor will be more than ready to avenge the trouncing they took at UT's hands earlier this year in Austin.

That leaves Texas 10-6 and tied for slot 4 with Houston, another team that appears to have finally figured out how to play up to its potential. The Cougars should add a light Rice dessert to their dinner of pork barbecue.

Texas (sorry, A&M) probably will beat A&M Wednesday in its suddenly friendly Frank Erwin Center confines. Austin folks seem to be coming, slowly but surely, to the realization that they actually have a quality basketball team there besides the Horns' more lauded female counterparts.

That leaves A&M limping in after its spectacular start. Limping ought to be enough to get over TCU, and that will even out the Aggies' record at a truly average 8-8 mark and alone in sixth. Their strong tournament history may not continue in '88, however, now that post-season whiz kid Winston Crite has left.

Tech will follow Saturday's impressive (chortle, chortle) outing at Jolly Rollie with losses to Baylor and Arkansas, leaving them with a 4-12 record and small consolation in not being the lowest-seeded team.

Chances are, says me, they'll lose to the Cougs and beat the Raiders, giving them a 11-5 SWC record — enough for a piece of second place. Whether they'd get the nod for the higher seeding, I must confess, I know not. Tie-breaking measures, along with integral calculus, are beyond this humble Journalism major.

Baylor, a pre-season conference favorite that seems to have remembered how to play this game after an atrocious start, looks strong for a piece of No. 2 as well. The Bears have Tech and Texas at home to close out the season. They should beat Tech without much trouble, but the Horns are a different story.

The BU-UT game Saturday looks

They may not hold on, however. They have road games with Houston and Tech left, and neither is a lock. Tech is notoriously tough at home, while Houston is actually good.

This conference is flakier than a Gisco/Loretta Lynn pie crust. And there's no telling what flake is going to decide to play up to his/hits potential on a given day.

This year's top seed ought to be SMU. They've proved unstopppable this year when they have decided to play well. The trouble is, they have been plagued with games like Saturday's fiasco in Austin where they can't seem to get off the bus without leaving their collective shooting touch in their collective duffel bag.

Kickoff team meeting set for 6 today

An organizational meeting for next fall's edition of the 12th Man Kick-off Team will be held today at Kyle Field.

The meeting, scheduled to start at 6 p.m., is open to all interested Texas A&M students.

This will be the sixth consecutive year for the special non-scholarship unit, which was started when A&M Head Coach Jackie Sherrill saw students working on bonfire and decided to channel the spirit he saw there into an actual part of the team.

The team has become famous nationwide with the exposure A&M has received from three consecutive trips to the Cotton Bowl. The 12th Man has never allowed a return for a touchdown and only one past the 50-yard line.

Anyone who needs more information about the meeting or the team should call 845-1242 or the A&M Sports Information Department at 845-5725.

Witt defeats Thomas in duel of 'Carmens'

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — From dueling Carmens to dueling coaches.

After Katarina Witt became the first woman in 52 years to win successive Olympic figure skating gold medals, Jutta Mueller, her coach, criticized American Debi Thomas for skating to Bizet's tragic opera.

After silver medalist Liz Manley handed Witt her first freestyle loss in six years, Manley's coach scolded the media for forgetting about the Canadian champion.

After Debi Thomas lost the battle of Carmens by turning what could have been a triumphant routine into one that plummeted her to third, Alex McGowan, her coach, weakly defended the two-time U.S. champion.

All three will meet next month at the world championships in Budapest, Hungary. The confrontation among their coaches could be as interesting as the final encounter for the skaters.

Although Manley was the surprise of the long program, she was too far

back — fourth in compulsories, third in short — to move up to a gold.

That, said Mueller, was a big edge for Witt, who skated four places ahead of Thomas, the final skater.

"Katarina portrays Carmen from the beginning to the end, as it should be," Mueller said. "Don't misunderstand me now, but, for Debi, she does not have the good feeling for Carmen and it was not the right choice for Debi."

"In the beginning, she was strong and OK. In the slow part, it was not Carmen. It looked like she was interpreting Swan Lake."

"On the end of the program, she was not Carmen at all."

Nor was she a threat to Witt, the first woman's double gold winner in singles since Sonja Henie's third straight crown in 1932.

Thomas, the 1986 world titlist, botched three triple jumps and slipped to fourth in the long (worth 50 percent of the total score) and third overall.

COME CASUAL

Direct from
Lynchburg, Tennessee
it's the
Hometown Homecoming
featuring
MR. JACK DANIEL'S ORIGINAL SILVER CORNET BAND



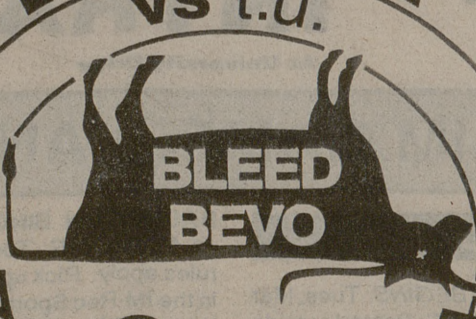
A delightful afternoon of music and theatre under the gazebo with "The Perfessor" and his thirteen piece band.
Tickets can be purchased at the MSC Box Office, 845-1234 and Dillard's Ticketron.

OPAS Sunday, March 6 at 4:00 p.m.
Rudder Auditorium

MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society
Memorial Student Center • Texas A&M University • Box 31 • College Station, TX 77844-9081

TEXAS A&M CHALLENGE

vs t.u.



BLEED BEVO

1988 BLOOD DRIVE

THE BLOOD CENTER at Wadley

February 29, March 1, 2, 3, 4

Commons: 10 am to 8 pm
MSC: 10 am to 6 pm

SBISA: 10 am to 6 pm
Zachry: 10 am to 5 pm

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The perfect Activity For Your Organization
Available Dates Going Fast-Call Today 823-0126



Bryan Golf Course
206 W. Villa Maria Bryan

Let us help you plan your tournament.

823-0126

Managed by  American Golf Corporation

THE BLOOD CENTER at Wadley

Another service of Alpha Phi Omega, Student Government & Omega Phi Alpha

Battalion Classified 845-2611