

Sports

A&M golfers, tracksters on the road

Two Texas A&M teams will be in Laredo this weekend participating in the Border Olympics.

The A&M men's golf team will play the second of three tournaments that determine the Southwest Conference championship without All-America Roy Mackenzie.

The A&M track team will also be in Laredo to run in the Border Olympics track meet.

Mackenzie will miss the Border Olympics golf tournament in Laredo because of a bout with the flu. The Aggies will field a team of seniors Neil Hickerson and Gary Gilchrist, sophomore Randy Lee, and freshmen Bobby Gee, Chris James and Todd Riddle. Hickerson has finished in the top six at both tournaments this spring.

"Roy has been playing well and we will miss him this week, but he is really not feeling well enough to play," A&M Head Coach Bob Ellis said. "It's the second leg of the conference regular season championship, so it's a very important tournament for us. We've finished second at two straight tournaments, and I think we're tired of being a bridesmaid. Maybe this is the week we'll break through and win."

All nine SWC teams will play in the Border Olympics along with six other universities. The SWC team with the highest point total after the three designated conference tournaments will be the SWC champion.

A&M finished third behind Arkansas and Texas in the first conference tournament.

The track team will open its outdoor season with the women competing today and the men on Saturday.

Runners Stanley Kerr, Errington Lindo and Trisha Harris will miss the meet to run at the Last Chance Meet in Lubbock. The trio will try to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships March 11-12 in Indianapolis.

Spring Break doldrums hit sports fans across the USA

The whistle has blown. There's a stop in the action, but spectators, not players, have called this timeout.

It's spring and American armchair athletes are getting off their couches and searching for something to carry them through the slow period of professional spring sports.

The cold and the precious little metal imported from the Calgary Winter Olympics are playing second fiddle to more personal fun-in-the-sun games.



Curtis L. Culberson
Sports viewpoint

National Basketball Association action is still on the backburner for a few more weeks. This is the lull period — 10 more games to crunch time and about 25 until the playoffs.

Baseball is in its early season doldrums and eager football fanatics must wait it out a few more months before they can take the best seat in the house on Sunday for the weekly pigskin party.

Even the sports pages look dull and unexciting.

The Bryan-College Station *Eagle* led its Wednesday sports page with the conviction of sports agent Jim Abernethy. He was sentenced to one year in jail for misdemeanor tampering.

Tuesday's *Dallas Morning News* was a little brighter — its lead sports story boasts of the Mavericks' nine-game winning streak.

The *Houston Post* Thursday sports lead story was about the Golden State Warriors — pretty weak even for a slow period.

And of course, newspapers' sports sections across the state were chock-full of columns and articles that continued the belly-aching about Team USA's disappointing Olympic performance.

So what's a dedicated sports fan to do?

Simply turn to the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue. It's a great break from those sports pages that are just plain dull this time of year.

And what an excellent spring break primer! It prepares you for what you can expect to see at the beach and gives you that extra motivation to get in shape.

With all the swimsuit mags that are on the racks year-round, SI's bikini issue just doesn't get the attention it used to, but it remains on the top of my list of remedies for the yearly troughs in the sportsworld.

If your not headed for the beach or your mate won't let you buy SI, then now is your chance to become a legend in your own mind.

While you wait for Lakers to clash with Houston or Dallas in the playoffs, put on your hi-tops and hit the courts.

Against your roommates, you can pass like "Magic," rebound like the "Dream," or slam like Jordan.

Spring football is another favorite. You can toss the old pigskin around, and if you need it, grab a tan to boot.

Softball also is a proven boredom cure. I hate to watch baseball and I'm really not a fan of softball either (probably because I don't play very well), but one friendly spring game a year is always a nice change of pace.

But of course, a sports fan's fancy turns to things besides balls and goals this time of year.

If you choose to get through this sports lull by spending a little extra time with your mate or finding one, my advice is simple — Score.

SMU hoops in Bliss over share of crown

DALLAS (AP) — For probation-plagued Southern Methodist University, it was blissful moment.

Coach Dave Bliss, wringing water out of his wet suit, didn't mind the discomfort.

The Mustangs had just won part of a Southwest Conference basketball championship for the first time in 16 years.

"This is great for this school," said Bliss, water dripping off his nose after he was tossed in a shower. "Our kids worked for it and got it."

The Mustangs, who whipped Texas Christian 87-54 Wednesday night, could get the whole SWC loaf if Houston defeated Arkansas Thursday night in a nationally televised (USA) game at 8 p.m. CST at Houston's Hofheinz Pavilion.

Arkansas had to beat Houston and Texas Tech in Lubbock on Sunday to share the crown with the Mustangs.

Bob Prewitt, coach of the 1972 champion Mustangs, was in the crowd of 4,752 fans at Moody Coliseum for the emotional victory.

"It's been a long time for this school, too long," Prewitt said. "It was time something good happened here. SMU used to be the basketball school in the conference. Then it just got away from us until Dave Bliss came here."

SMU graduate Lamar Hunt, founder of the American Football League and owner of the Kansas City Chiefs, was at the game with his son.

"It's great for the school," he said.

SMU's football team received the so-called "death penalty" from the NCAA in a pay-for-play recruiting scandal and will not play until 1989. The school has a new president, A. Kenneth Pye, and a new athletic director, Doug Single.

The Mustangs haven't won an outright SWC basketball title since 1967.

"It was one of those thrilling moments," Bliss said. "There's nothing I've wanted more for my team than for them to be Southwest Conference champions."

"There's a lot of things neat about being in the NCAA. There's a lot of things neat about being on national TV. But winning the conference championship is something that happens over two months."

"This team did a great job of hanging in. They faltered but they never fell. It was exciting."

SMU finished the SWC season 12-4 and is 23-6 overall. The Mustangs have one non-conference game left, against Chicago State on Saturday.

The Mustangs have played a strong schedule and are 7-2 against teams in last year's NCAA playoffs. They are shooting for their ninth NCAA appearance.

Under Bliss, SMU is 136-100 in eight years. The Ponies have had three 20-victory seasons in the past five years.

Carlton McKinney, who led SMU with 20 points in the victory over TCU, said, "We'll be watching TV close. It's going to be tough for the Hogs to win on the road."

SMU and Arkansas split in their regular season series. If they are still tied after Sunday, SWC officials will flip a coin for the top seed in next week's tournament that will decide the NCAA representative.

"This is a milestone win for our program," Bliss said.

SMU reached the second spot in the Associated Press Top 20 in 1985 but faded and did not even win the conference crown.

Someone at the school knew something. A 40-foot high banner with "SWC Champions" on it was lowered from the ceiling after Wednesday's victory.

The Mustangs will have a senior-dominated team next year and the Big Apple NIT has already come calling.

Wadkins takes an early lead in Doral Open

MIAMI (AP) - Bobby Wadkins shot a 67 Thursday to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of the \$1 million Doral Open Golf Tournament.

His 5-under-par round, completed late in the afternoon, lifted him ahead of a group of four — including Jack Nicklaus — tied at 68.

"I just want to see how long I can keep the Wadkins name on top of the leader-board," he said.

Wadkins, a non-winner in 14 seasons on the PGA Tour, is the brother of the tournament's defending champion, Lanny Wadkins.

Nicklaus, a non-winner since his Masters triumph in 1986, used a metal driver in competition for the first time and attributed his strong play to that club.

"I wouldn't be here if I'd used my old driver," said Nicklaus, winner of a record 18 major professional titles.

"I'm hitting it long enough and I'm hitting it very, very straight. It's the first time in my life I can stand on the tee and feel like I can drive it on the side of the fairway I want to," he said.

Nicklaus was tied at 4-under on the Blue Monster course at the Doral Country Club with PGA champion Larry Nelson, Tom Kite and Chip Beck, who scored his first career victory last week in the Los Angeles Open.

"The wind made it very difficult," Nelson said. "I've played here 12 or 13 times and I can only remember wind like this a couple of times."

Ray Floyd, a two-time winner of this title, led a group at 69 that also included Bruce Lietzke, John Mahaffey, Tommy Nakajima of Japan, Dr. Gil Morgan and Ed Fiori.

Lanny Wadkins, the defending title-holder and a winner in Hawaii last month, had a double-bogey 7 on the first hole and struggled to a 74.

Sometimes good looks can improve your grades.

Actual output using the IBM® Personal System/2™ Model 25 Collegiate.

Often the best way to illustrate your point is with an illustration. Using the IBM Personal System/2 Model 25 Collegiate (which includes software), you can show your professors what you really think. Simply call up the notes from your document file, then insert the graphics you've created. That way, your profs are sure to get the picture.

With the special Model 25 Collegiate package, you get lots of useful software, including Microsoft® Windows 1.04, Write, Paint, Cardfile and IBM DOS 3.3.

When you've got the Collegiate, your work can look better. And so can your grades.

MICROCOMPUTERCENTER
Computer Sales and Supplies

Hours: 10 AM - 6 PM Mon - Fri
123B Memorial Student Center
(409) 846-4081

Microsoft is a registered trademark of the Microsoft Corporation. IBM is a registered trademark and Personal System/2 is a trademark of the International Business Machines Corporation. © IBM Corporation 1987

Class Council '88 & '89 Newsletter

All University Bash

The Special Events chairmen have been working together with the other class councils to sponsor an All University party March 25th at Central Park. Star 92 is tentatively set to help sponsor the event with publicity and providing a D.J. at the event. We look forward to seeing everyone out there!!

Class of '88

Thank You

The Class Gift Committee along with the Class of '88 Council would like to thank all the seniors for getting out and voting for class gift. The class gift has been selected and will be announced on Sunday, April 10 during the All University Awards Ceremony during Parent's Weekend.

Ring Dance

Decoration for Ring Dance have been chosen. There will be an Information Booth for Ring Dance March 1st thru 3rd in the MSC to answer any questions anyone may have concerning this event. Tickets go on sale March 7th in the Rudder Box Office. Ring Dance will be held April 17 in the Rudder Exhibit Hall & MSC. The dance will begin at 9 p.m. and end at 1 a.m. Tickets are \$35.00 per couple.

Anyone who wishes to help with the final set up is more than welcome and can contact the chairmen for this event. (Jaime Galvan 693-0977 and Rachel Hill 693-0798)

Senior Banquet

Senior Banquet will be held preceding Ring Dance. There will be a cocktail hour beginning at 5:30; dinner will follow at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Inn. The menu for the evening will include center cut ribeye, twice baked potato, green beans, salad, and a delicious dessert. There will also be a cash bar. Tickets for this event will also be sold at the Rudder Box Office for \$30. Due to the serving accommodations tickets for the banquet will be sold until April 13th to insure everyone is served. The speaker for the evening will be Gene Stallings, head Coach for the St. Louis Cardinals and Texas A&M graduate of the Class of '57.

Class of '89

Class Ball

The Class of '89 & '90 is sponsoring a class ball on March 5. The theme is "Double Feature" and tickets go on sale in the MSC for \$12. Don't miss it!

Gift Information Week

There will be a table in the MSC March 7-11 for Juniors to submit any suggestions. Come by to see gifts given in the past.

Spring Leadership Trip Committee

The Class of '89 donated \$50 to the Spring Leadership Trip—Have fun!

Sweatshirts

If you want to buy a class sweatshirt call Tonia at 696-2062. They're only \$10.

Summer Orientation

The Class of '89 will be sponsoring Freshman Orientation mixers this summer. The profits will be used to help the Class of '92 get a great start!