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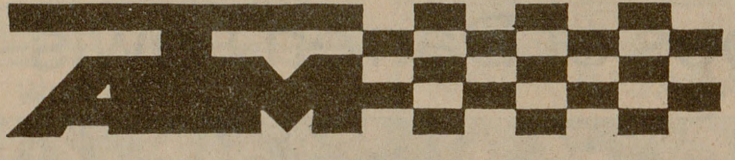
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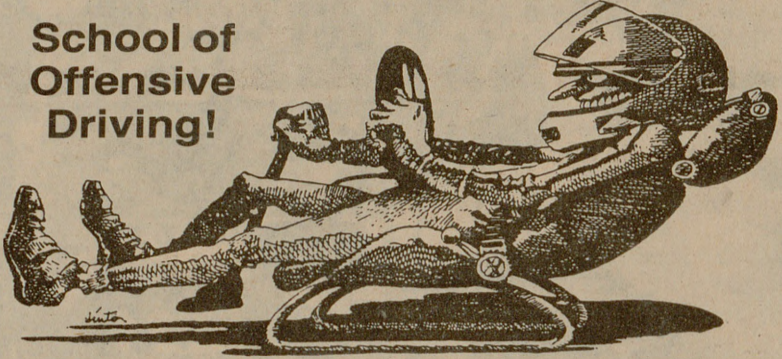
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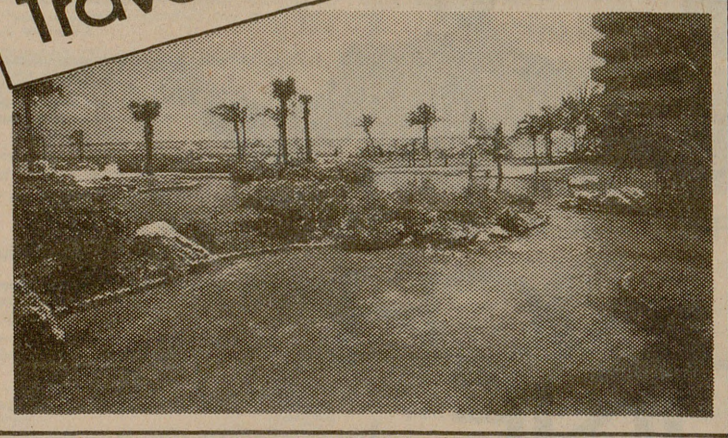
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Sure, the pennant race is heating up, but they should've lit the fire in August

The major-league pennant races are winding down, and the World Series is right around the corner, with the final four teams beginning their quest for the World Series this week.

Who cares? Every year, I look forward to baseball and apple pie, and the grand old American pastime getting underway in April.

But each August, I get tired of those hot summer days, and start thinking about explosive offenses and have-mercy-for-the-weak linebackers in the cool fall.

Let's face it — baseball season is a month too long.

Those nine-inning games start to get long and boring, there's no band or rivalry to keep the games interesting, and scoring is about like pulling teeth — it doesn't happen very often.

Also, there are a few players that really need to go on a Herbalife diet, or start using a weight control device such as Fernando Valenzuela, Sid Fernandez, and the infamous Terry Forster, who was finally sent to a Fat Farm.

On many teams about the only good athletes



Jeff Miller
Sports viewpoint

on the field are the outfielders and the middle infielders, whose positions require quickness.

It seems to me that close plays at the plate are the only exciting things that happen in baseball, and they don't happen that often, if at all.

The boys of summer don't know how to fight, either.

Baseball fights aren't as exciting as football, unless the player throws his bat at the pitcher or punches are thrown. They usually involve the batter charging a pitcher who beamed him and the entire team surrounds in one big pile where blows can't be seen.

In football, every play could end in a good brawl.

They usually evolve from a late hit, or a defensive lineman hitting the quarterback late, or a little back and forth taunting between cocky players.

There aren't many heated rivalries to look forward to, either.

I look forward to the games like OU-Texas, Auburn-Alabama, Army-Navy, and, of course, Texas A&M-Texas.

There are traditions, bragging rights, large crowds, and much more intensity in football than baseball.

Besides Cleveland Municipal Stadium (a football stadium), I've never seen or heard of a Major League Baseball team with an average crowd of more than 60,000, mainly because there

aren't many baseball stadiums that seat that many fans.

But don't get me wrong — I like baseball. I just think its season lasts way too long and takes away from the spirit of the sport when people get tired of it because it lasts through the middle of the anxiously-awaited football season.

Many people go to a baseball game to relax, have a few beers and enjoy a quiet game. On the other hand, I don't know of many football fans who go to football games to relax; they go to see explosive offenses, bone-crushing hits, blood, sweat, mud, and be a part of an enthusiastic crowd.

Let's face it — football is more exciting. It's not too often during a football game that camera focuses on a spectator that is in R.E.M. sleep.

Every play can result in one of those bone-crushing hits, long touchdown runs, or a fight between two players that weigh a combined 300 pounds.

That's exciting.

There aren't any overpowering teams in baseball. There is almost no chance of any team, no matter how good their hitters are, of going through the season undefeated.

In professional football, it is very unlikely that it has happened. Baseball hasn't been known to teams that haven't been beaten in two years at home, and the crowds at baseball games usually don't play a part in the visiting team's performance.

Lewis

(Continued from page 7)

Two key plays in an otherwise-average game turned the season around for the Aggies. One was when Richardson scrambled 82 yards for a touchdown, telling the A&M coaching staff that there was an answer to the team's quarterback dilemma that hadn't been considered yet.

The other was when Lewis plowed into a pile of Golden Eagles and came out the other side to run for a 77-yard TD.

Everyone knew he could run past people. No one knew he could run through people.

From then on, it was obvious who the star was in the tailback position. Woodside was the starter, but Lewis was the man.

And thus the scene was set for this year. In a conference full of talented running backs — James Rouse of Arkansas, Lorenzo Cyphers of Rice, James Gray of Tech, Kimble Anders of Houston — Lewis emerged alone at the top of the heap.

Except for a certain high-jumper from the University of Texas.

And the comparisons between Lewis

and Eric Metcalf are somewhat unavoidable. Both are the offensive stars of their teams, both sport impressive yardage and yards-per-carry numbers. Both have moves that leave fans — and defensive players — speechless.

And each has a support group that suggests he could be the first Southwest Conference Heisman winner since Earl Campbell.

But like everything else, those things don't seem to affect Lewis very much.

"I haven't just sat down and thought about it," he said.

"You have to be consistent to be a Heisman candidate. I'm just trying to stay injury-free. If my senior year rolls around and I'm a legitimate Heisman candidate, then that's something I'll really be striving for."

Perhaps that attitude is what makes Lewis so pleasant to be around. He always seems to be smiling, no matter what the situation.

"If you keeping a smile on your face it makes the day go by faster," he said with a smile. "Shucks, I'm just trying to have fun."

It seems to be working.

Mets win NL opener on Carter hit in 9th

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gary Carter's bloop double to center field with two outs in the ninth inning scored two runs and gave New York a dramatic 3-2 victory over Los Angeles Tuesday night and 1-0 lead in the National League playoffs.

The Mets had been shut out for eight innings by Dodger starter Orel Hershiser, who came into the game off a record streak of 59 consecutive scoreless innings.

Gregg Jefferies, who had three hits, led off the ninth with a single and moved to second when Keith Hernandez grounded to first. Darryl Strawberry doubled to right to score Jefferies.

Jay Howell relieved Hershiser and walked Kevin McReynolds. He struck out Howard Johnson and had two strikes on Carter.

The Mets catcher then blooped a short fly to center that John Shelby, playing deep, failed to catch with a diving attempt.

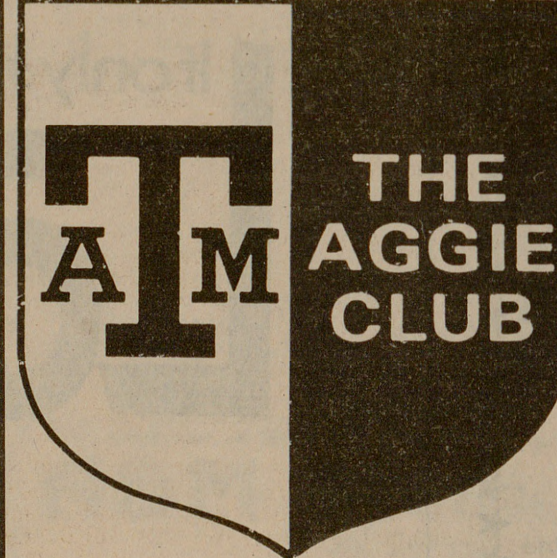
The ball dribbled past Shelby a few feet and, with the runner moving on the play, McReynolds came all the way around from first and just beat Shelby's throw to the plate.

Game 2 of the best-of-seven series is scheduled Wednesday night at Dodger Stadium, starting at 10:05 EDT. The Mets will send David Cone, 20-3, against rookie Tim Belcher, 12-6.

Randy Myers pitched two innings in relief of Dwight Gooden to get the victory. Howell took the loss.

Gooden allowed only four hits and struck out 10 in seven innings of a game that more than lived up to its billing as a pitchers' duel.

The Student Chapter



The Aggie Club

Student Chapter

General Meeting

October 5
7:30 p.m.

Meet at the 12th man statue
(located at the North end of Kyle Field)

We will be touring the Press Box and discussing the Arkansas road trip.

For more information call the Aggie Club