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Friday, February 10, 1989

### Davis, UT drill Lady Ags Turnovers, poor shooting costly to A&M

lead (37-20) with two minutes re-

• Score: No.9 Texas 86, A&M 61 • Record:14-7; 6-4 in the SWC.

maining in the opening half.

• Next game: Wednesday at Baylor • Standing: Third place.

Lady Aggie turnovers led to easy layups for Texas as forward Vicki

Hall (four points) and guard Lyssa

the competitive phase of the game

A&M was intimidated throughout

McBride (six points) led the run.

Lady Aggie Update

#### **By Stan Golaboff**

SPORTS WRITER

AUSTIN — Texas A&M came to Austin dreaming of an upset. Instead, the Lady Aggies were reated to a nightmare - Texas

Turnovers, poor shooting and a case of nerves did in the Lady Aggies as the ninth-ranked Lady Longnorms of Texas stormed to an easy 86-61 victory Thrusday night at the

Frank Erwin Center in Austin. A&M committed 19 turnovers and shot only 36 percent from the field in suffering its third loss in the last four games.

Senior center Lisa Jordon led A&M with 13 points with nine re-bounds. Senior guard Donna Roper added 12 points. Senior All-American Clarissa Da-

and missed layups and threw errant vis scored 26 points and grabbed 16 rebounds in leading Texas (16-4: 10-

0 in the SWC) to its 111th consecholding a commanding 39-22 lead. utive Southwest Conference victory. A&M (14-7;6-4) only led once, 2 Apparently, the Lady Aggies were too intimidated and nervous to put 0, before Texas moved to a 20-14 lead in the game's first twelve min-

together any cohesion on offense. Texas head coach Jody Conradt was surprised by A&M's lack of emo-Texas then began its first decisive scoring spurt with a 13-6 run that gave the Lady Longhorns a 17-point tion "I was surprised A&M played with

less emotion that we expected," Con-radt said. "They're a scary ballclub because they have a lot of talent and depth. Changing they're personnel so much hurt them.

A&M head coach Lynn Hickey was hoping to shuffle players in and out to keep them fresh for a possible rally late in the game. Texas extended the lead midway

through the final period with a 17-7 streak over a four minute span. The Texas run ended with the Lady Horns holding a 69-43 lead

with eight minutes to go.

"We never got into our offensive game," Hickey said. "We didn't play a good game. Texas did. They're intensity was excellent.

"We played good defense at times, but we couldn't score." The first half ended with Texas

## **Aggie baseball team hopeful** of return to NCAA playoffs A&M opens season by hosting Pan American

## By Jerry Bolz and Steven Merritt

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITORS

There's no doubt Texas A&M has established itself as a college baseball

power Last year's squad went 52-15 in-cluding a 17-4 mark in the Southwest Conference and a trip to the South Regional in Mississippi, where they fell one game short of going on to the College World Series. Seasons like last year's have been

standard since Coach Mark Johnson took over the head job for the 1985

Johnson has high hopes for this year, too. But several question marks are keeping him from making any preseason predictions.

The recent string of cold and icy to go 'all out' on the field.

days has allowed only one outside practice for Johnson's crew since Feb. 2.

"As far as opening day, this is the farthest behind we've ever been," he said. "We're not ready to win a championship today, but with the

#### **Aggie Baseball**

• What: A&M v. Pan American. • When: Today at 3 p.m. • Where: Olsen Field.

number of games we play (59), we should have a chance.

Andy Duke, senior right fielder, said the lack of outdoor practice shouldn't hurt that much.

"We've been working inside, so we haven't missed practice altogether," he said. "It is hard to regain certain kinds of timing when you aren't able

Johnson said the caliber of competition is hard to judge right now, but playing a Division I schedule means there are always some big games.

'The interesting thing about baseball is that there is a constant turno-ver," he said. "It's very hard to say who the big games are. We feel like we play tough competition every time we cross the line.

A&M has experience in seven of the nine field positions. John Bying-ton (.314 last year) and Chuck Knoblauch (.365) are expected to lead the way at the plate. Knoblauch, All-SWC shortstop

last season will continue at that position while Byington should take over third base duties from former Aggie star Scott Livingstone.

Byington was used mostly at designated hitter last year, but he backed up Livingstone and also See Baseball/Page 10

# Several questions arise from football's national signing day

The recruiting wars are over. Let peace and harmony reign across the land. Don't bet on it.

Now that the national signing date has passed, sports writers and recruiting specialists across the country and the state are assessing who won and who lost in the football game played off the field. But better than who won or lost are the dicussions that will ensue over the best issue of all: WHO CHEATED?

periods such as Who cares who's getting who? It's really more interesting to know who's getting ed, McConnel what, i.e. cars, money and credit cards. bolize that the Well, let's see. imself too thin

The low-down is that you can expect the NCAA to come calling in Waco sometime soon. The not-so-mighty Baylor Bears nailed down Robert Strait, the best running back in Texas. The 6-1, 217 lb., bullet train from Cuero chose the Bears over the University of Southern California and UT. He said he wanted to stay in the state and

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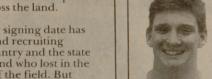
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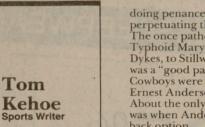
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to his small town background. Yeah, yeah, yeah

private school in Texas or an out-of-state school hit the mother lode, they got some time in the cooler from the NCAA. I'm referring to SMU landing Eric Dickerson, Jeff Atkins, Russell Carter and a myriad of paid pigskin carriers. Then they got the Ted Bundy Special.

An out-of-state privateer that is now



the smaller school on the Brazos appealed

Bear this in mind Robert: The last time a

doing penance for its sinful ways and perpetuating the trend is Oklahoma State. The once pathetic Cowboys lured the Typhoid Mary of college football, Hart Lee Dykes, to Stillwater because Dykes said it was a "good passing school." At the time the Cowboys were running All-American Ernest Anderson about 40 times a game. About the only time the ball went in the air was when Anderson would run the halfback option.

But after multiple investigations surrounding the Dykes-Contra affair, the Cowboys and at least three other teams got sent to the corner by the NCAA. The Cowboys will be in the corner for four years

for the Irish. Under Gerry Faust, Notre Dame had at least two consecutive years when their class was described as "the best in the nation'

But even though Faust could probably convince a rabbi to sign with the SS, once he got the talent into South Bend they would hibernate for four years.

But Holtz is getting the best in the country of his kind of players. The first ingredient in his recruits is speed. One of top catches from this class is Shawn Smith from Buena, N.J. Smith is not just an outstanding

linebacker but spends the off-season as the state champion in high school sprints.

Speed, baby, speed. But Notre Dame has the reputation, and probably rightly so, for squeaky clean recruiting.

Now let's talk about the University of Miami. Not exactly known for obeying mores,

ethics or even criminal codes, the Hurricanes were able to land two of Texas'

top players. One is Jessie Armstead, the linebacker from 5A state champion Carter High

School. Mr. Armstead had said his choices were narrowed to A&M and Baylor and all others had been eliminated.

But, lo and behold, at the last minute the cavalry rides in and saves Armstead for the Hurricanes. Yea!

But the last-minute plot thickens. Tuesday, Dallas Roosevelt wide receiver Kevin Williams verbally committed to

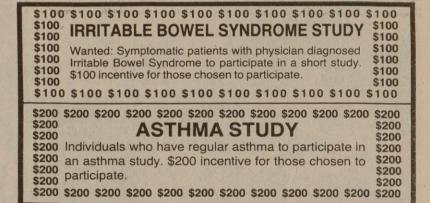
Miami after leaning heavily toward UCLA. Wait a minute. Haven't we seen strange, last-minute changes like this before? Yeah.

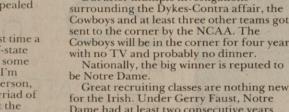
it was when Hart Lee Dykes changed his commitment from Illinois to Oklahoma State And who was the head coach at OSU

when that happened? Jimmy Johnson? Well isn't he the head coach at Miami

now? He is?!

I recommend that the NCAA get some reservations for Miami. Because the trend just may continue





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