

Friday, February 24, 1989

## Aggie men's tennis team blasts Eagles

The Texas A&M men's tennis team improved its season record to 2-4 Thursday with a 7-2 home victory over the University of North Texas Eagles.

The Aggies experienced both high and low points during the match, as A&M walk-on Gregg Dyer turned in an outstanding performance while junior captain Steve Kennedy was lost for the season to a knee injury.

A&M top seed Gustavo Espinosa was defeated 6-4, 6-3 by UNT's Jim Kohr while second-seeded Shaun O'Donovan had no problem with UNT's Keith McKay, posting a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

Matt Zisette defeated UNT's Mark Clifton 6-2, 6-4, in third-seeded action while Doug Brown destroyed UNT's Chris Tibbetts 6-1, 6-1, in a fourth-seed match.

Kennedy was knotted at 3-3 in the first set of his fifth-seeded match with UNT's Sandeet Chhabra before the contest was forfeited because of Kennedy's knee injury.

Thursday's match was Kennedy's second after returning to the team from a previous knee injury.

Senior Craig Whitteker is expected to return to the lineup in 2-6

weeks after recovery from arthroscopic knee surgery.

Dyer, a walk-on from Bryan, defeated UNT's Tor Krosby 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the sixth-seed match.

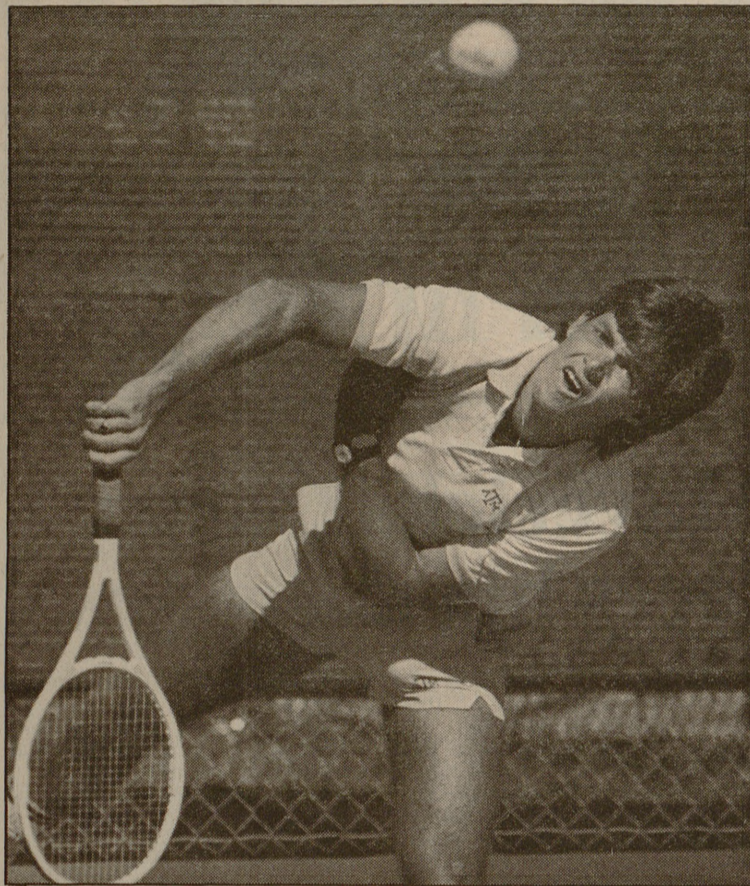
The Aggies dominated the doubles contests, as the top-seeded team of O'Donovan and Zisette rallied after a first set loss to win their match over UNT's Kohr and McKay 6-7, 6-0, 6-3.

A&M's second-seeded pairing of Blake Barsalou and Espinosa wasted no time in defeating UNT's Tibbett and Chhabra 6-1, 6-3, while the third-seeded team of Brown and Dyer coasted by UNT's Clifton and Scott Hope 6-1, 6-2.

A&M Head Coach David Kent said the team was hurting, but had no plans of giving up.

"Gregg (Dyer) fought hard and really made the difference, especially with the loss of Steve (Kennedy)," Kent said. "Gregg's win gives us a lot of momentum. We have to do a lot of improving and take each match head-on."

The Aggies will have a week to regroup before they travel to Corpus Christi to participate in the Corpus Team Tournament which begins March 2.



A&M's Shaun O'Donovan serves during his singles victory.

Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

## Aggie teams ready for crucial weekend

Texas A&M's baseball and basketball teams will try to keep winning streaks alive while the Lady Aggie basketball team will attempt to get back on the winning track this weekend.

Shelby Metcalf Aggie basketball team (13-12; 6-7 in the SWC), riding a five-game winning streak, will try to avenge an earlier home loss when they travel to Houston to take on the Houston Cougars. The regionally televised (Raycom) Southwest Conference basketball game is scheduled to tipoff tomorrow at 1 p.m. in Hofheinz Pavilion.

A&M will be trying to win its sixth in a row for the first time since 1980 when A&M opened SWC play by winning nine consecutive games without a loss.

A&M will have to stop the Cougars' Craig Upchurch who burned them for 34 points in the first meeting between the two teams. Houston (15-12; 6-7) won the first game by a 71-67 score.

Metcalf says the Aggies need to remain focused and cannot afford a letdown if they want to extend their winning streak.

"Our players are playing with a lot more confidence," Metcalf said. "I

think they realize that the hard work is paying off.

"We started off a little slow Wednesday (against Rice) and the players realize they have to go all out every time they step on the court. If we don't play hard, we don't play well."

Lynn Hickey's Lady Aggie hoopsters (15-9; 7-6 in the SWC) will be trying to right the ship and qualify for the SWC women's tournament. The Lady Aggies are in a three-way battle for fourth place in the SWC and a win over Houston (15-9; 8-5) would be crucial. The top four teams qualify for the women's tourney.

Hickey's squad has lost five of its last seven games after getting out to a good start.

The sixth-ranked A&M baseball team will be hosting Louisiana Tech for a three-game series as the Aggies try to extend their season-opening winning streak to 13 games.

A&M (10-0) will begin the series with a doubleheader starting tomorrow at 1 p.m.

## Aggie basketball fans need an education in hoops etiquette

When I moved to Texas nine years ago one thing became readily apparent to me.

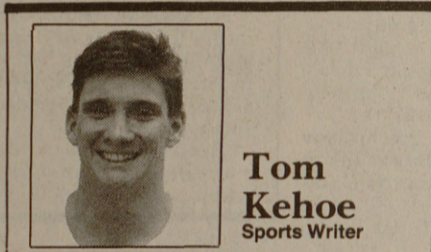
Football is King. There was no questioning it. It was bigger than — bow your heads and genuflect true Texans — rodeo.

And at the time that was cool with me. I mean, I played football. I watched football. I really liked football. And today, two of those three statements remain true.

But as my life in the Lone Star State rolled on, the fact of football's despotic rule on my new home began to alarm me.

It was now basketball season and football recruiting news dominated the sports pages. Then the boys of summer began to play and football was still getting press with news of spring football and training camps. And then it was back to football season again.

What is this leading up to? I'm tired of living in the iron grip of the pigskin despot and his blind subjects. There



Tom Kehoe Sports Writer

are other sports to attend here at A&M.

No, you're probably not going to be able to get a date for every basketball game like you're used to, you football season studs. And even if you do you're probably not going to score every time the Aggies do.

But you should go to the basketball games! After 11 home games the average attendance is a pathetic 2,493.

Shelby Metcalf's team is playing some of the best roundball this campus has seen

since Rynn Wright packed his bags and left the fiendly confines of G. Rollie White.

They've won five games in row. Go to the basketball games!

And the Aggies' game is now exciting with a tough pressing defense and new up-tempo offense. It's not a dull team that puts up 15 three-point shots in the first half of a game.

So that briefly covers why you should be going. Now let's talk about the 2,493 that are showing up.

Let me preface the forthcoming tirade with this: This doesn't apply to all of you. But as they say, a few bad apples spoil the whole barrel. So that few need to be admonished.

First, not every call made against the Aggies is a bad one. You shouldn't come unglued when Freddie Ricks and Tony Milton get those charging calls. It happens sometimes; deal with it.

Second, when said bad call is made, don't assume the official in error is on the take.

The routine of holding up your grungy dollar bills is losing its novelty and it looks more like you're soliciting for some halftime entertainment.

Third, please control the language you're berating the officials with. Voicing your opinion is one thing, but when you do it with a vocabulary that indicates you have done a stretch in the merchant marine, that's another. Besides it's really a poor representation for our university when a TV camera catches one of the Aggie faithful overtly screaming obscenities.

Fourth: (And when you write in it's spelled K-E-H-O-E.) The band is inappropriate. Initially, it's just too loud. Spirit and effort are appreciated but rendering the seniors and the press corps tone deaf is just sort of overdoing it.

A smaller, jazz-oriented band is a better idea. But a point in favor of the band (yes

we Batt-commies can say something nice) is the change in format of their music.

Popular music is much more appealing to fans than the militaristic dirges that were exclusively played before.

And finally, (remember: get the spelling right) somebody muzzle Reveille after her opening 30 seconds of barking. It's mildly cute when it starts but after a good five minutes it inspires thoughts in your mind that wouldn't sit too well with the S.P.C.A. Besides, I don't think a barking Collie is all that intimidating to a 6-8 forward who has Doug Dennis pushing him around like a blocking dummy.

So there you have it. If you haven't been going — go.

If you have been going, thanks, but get smart.

See y'all at the next home game. It's March 4 against Texas. I mean, gosh, it's against t.u. Do it for Old Army and good bull. Whoop.

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writer for the X-Men
- Artist Guest.....Real Musgrave  
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- Toastmaster.....Kerry O'Quinn  
editor of STARLOG magazine

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- C. Dean Andersson (Asa Drake), Barbara Bartholomew, P. D. Breeding-Black, Lillian Stewart Carl, Carole Nelson Douglas, Sam Douglas, Brad Foster, Danny & Jude Gillies, Steve Gould, Rory Harper, Vicki Ann Heydron, Katherine Eliska Kimbriel, Joe Lansdale, Ardath Mayhar, Laura Mixon, Warren Norwood, Doug Potter, Gregor Puchtaz, Nina Romberg, Lewis Shiner, Howard Waldrop

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