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Strictly Pleasure

Lady netters pick up victories
A&M whips Lobos, LSU

By Tom Kehoe

SPORTS WRITER

The Texas A&M women's tennis team scored a double win over the weekend with victories over the University of New Mexico and Louisiana State University. The Lady Aggies defeated New Mexico Friday 7-2 on the strength of their singles play.

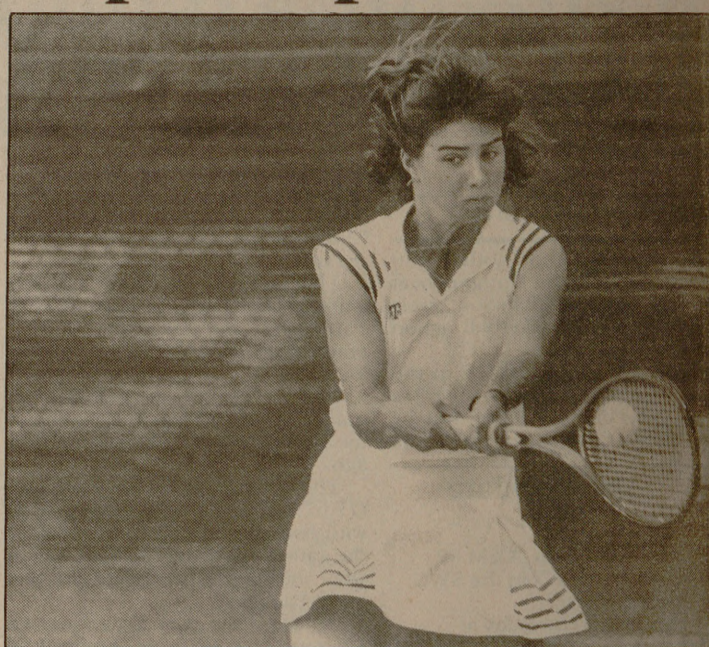
Junior Lisa Keller led the way with a 6-4, 6-0 triumph over the Lady Lobo's number two singles player, Jennifer Terry. Number one singles player Susan Williams was defeated by New Mexico's Chris Hoffer 6-3, 6-3. Williams had just returned to the top spot for the New Mexico match.

The remaining singles players, Cindy Churchwell, Lynn Staley, Robyn Mawdsley and Jennifer Jones all won their matches for A&M.

In doubles action, the team of Keller and Mawdsley was defeated by Hoffer and Wilson 6-0, 7-6. But the Lady Aggies rebounded, winning the remaining two doubles matches.

Churchwell and Staley dropped the first set but regrouped to win, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0 over the Lady Lobo tandem of Bred and Toomey. Derryn Haygarth and Williams combined to defeat Look and Sandberg of New Mexico in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1.

After the blowout on Friday the Lady Aggies found themselves in a hole against LSU. Keller played the



A&M's Robyn Mawdsley lost to LSU's Mimi Young 6-4, 7-6. Photo by Frederick D. Joe

number one singles position and defeated the Lady Tigers' Jana Garrison 7-6, 7-5. Williams had an easier time against the number two seed from LSU, Patricia Minnis, as she cruised 6-2, 6-3.

The Lady Tigers claimed the rest of the singles matches to assume a 4-2 advantage going into the doubles.

The Lady Aggies responded with authority, sweeping all three doubles matches in straight sets. Haygarth and Williams downed Young and Todorovic of LSU 6-2, 6-1 to garner the first doubles win. Churchwell and Staley combined for a 6-4, 6-2

victory over Minnis and Herrera to notch the second doubles victory that brought the match to a tie. Keller and Mawdsley slammed the final nail in LSU's coffin, 6-3, 6-3 over Garrison and Homeles.

It was a win Coach Bobby Kle-neck was relieved to pull out.

"We can't play singles any worse and expect to win," he said. "We need more than just the number one and two to win because depth is our strength."

"They (LSU) expected us to lose more than they had to win it."

Unbeaten Aggies sweep series as Taylor leads offensive show

By Steven Merritt

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Sunday's 14-2 win over Louisiana Tech not only gave the Texas A&M baseball team a three-game sweep of the Bulldogs, it gave the club an unblemished 13-0 record and one of the best starts in Aggie history.

The weekend series, which the Aggies swept 11-4, 12-9 and 14-2, dropped Louisiana Tech's record to 1-5.

Game one of the series saw a balanced A&M offensive attack that pounded Bulldog pitching for 11 runs and 12 hits, five of which were home runs. The Aggies scored in each inning at the plate en route to the 11-4 victory on Saturday.

A&M's biggest scoring inning came in the three-run fourth, high-

lighted by first baseman Terry Taylor's two-out home run.

Taylor, who went 2-for-4 with four runs batted in, cleaned the base paths with a three-run shot over the centerfield wall increasing the A&M lead to 7-0. The home run was Taylor's second of the day and his fifth of the year.

Taylor wasn't alone in home run production for the Aggies, as right fielder Andy Duke, third baseman John Byington and catcher Eric Albright contributed some spectacular hitting.

Byington picked up his second home run of the year, also a solo hit, in the third inning as he crushed a 2-1 pitch from Tech's Dave Brennan over the Southwest Conference logo in straightaway center. Byington was a perfect 3-for-3 with 2 runs batted in.

Pat Sweet went the distance as the A&M starter, working seven innings and giving up four earned runs on six hits. The junior from South Gate, Calif., walked one and struck out one to get the victory, bringing his record to 3-0. Brennan got the loss.

Sweet helped the Aggie defense throughout the game by keeping his pitches low, allowing A&M infielders to turn two double plays and handle many routine ground balls.

"I concentrated on keeping the ball down throughout the game," Sweet said. "If I do keep it down, most of the time I can get myself out of an inning with ground balls and double plays like today."

Freshman Ronnie Allen got the start in game two but ran into trouble early in the first, as the Bulldogs collected five runs on six hits and two walks.

Allen was replaced by senior right-hander Anthony DeLaCruz in the second, as Tech scored two more runs in the inning to make the score 7-0.

The A&M offense responded by scoring eight runs in the bottom of the second in an inning that was highlighted by Duke's second home run of the year, an opposite field two-run shot over the rightfield wall.

The Aggies picked up three more in the third and one in the seventh to take the 12-9 victory.

DeLaCruz got the win, giving up one run on two hits while striking out two in 3 2/3 innings of work. The win improves his record to 3-0. Sophomore reliever Steve Hughes picked up the save, his second, on 1 1/3 innings of work.

Sunday's finale was another offensive show for the Aggies, as the team scored 12 runs in the sixth and seventh innings to coast to a 14-2 win.

Kirk Thompson led the Aggies at the plate, going 4-for-4 with one run batted in. Thompson just missed hitting for the cycle, needing a home run to complete the perfect day at the plate.

Senior Keith Langston picked up the win, allowing no runs on one hit while striking out one, bringing his record to 2-0.

A&M Head Coach Mark Johnson said he was pleased with the team's performance.

"All of our guys played extremely well," Johnson said. "They showed confidence at the plate. Kirk Thompson got us started (in the third game) and hitting is continuing."

Mitchell-led A&M takes tourney title

Freshman pitcher Dana Mitchell performed flawlessly to lead ninth-ranked Texas A&M to the championship of the Louisiana Classics Softball Tournament in Lafayette, La., over the weekend.

A&M won all five games it played in the tournament in boosting its season record to 5-2 as Mitchell highlighted the tournament with a no-hitter in the Aggies' 7-0 semi-final win over Southern Mississippi.

The tournament consisted of a round-robin format for the first day in which the Aggies played and won

In Mitchell's no-hitter, her first as a collegian, she narrowly missed a perfect game with only a walk in the sixth inning preventing her from completely shutting down USM.

For the tourney, Mitchell picked up all five wins for A&M while allowing only one unearned run, 15 hits and nine walks in 41 innings. Mitchell struck out 18 hitters.

Mitchell earned most valuable player honors for the tournament plus the praise of A&M Head Coach Bob Brock.

"I'm really proud of Dana," Brock said. "She worked hard this weekend and deserves the most valuable player award."

Mitchell joined four other Aggies on the all-tournament team.

Center fielder Erin Newkirk, right fielder Stacy Crainer, shortstop Renee Blaha and first baseman Carrie Heightley were the other Aggies named to the team.

Brock also praised freshman left fielder Stephanie Schulte for her offensive production. Schulte posted seven runs batted in and had one triple.

"Everyone is hitting well right now, especially Stephanie," Brock said. "We've got lots of work to go but we've made great strides. We're looking forward to our home-opening doubleheader this Wednesday against Southwest Texas State."

Aggie Softball

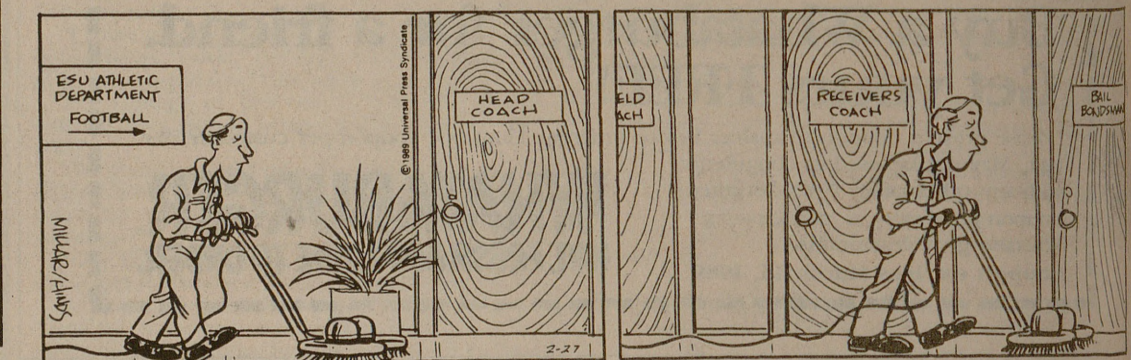
- **Result:** A&M wins championship of Louisiana Classics Tournament.
- **Record:** 5 wins, 2 losses.
- **Next game:** Wednesday vs. Southwest Texas St.

three games. Sunday featured a single-elimination tourney among the four teams.

A&M swept through the round-robin portion of the tournament with wins over Northwestern State of Louisiana (6-0), Southwestern Louisiana (2-1 in 13 innings) and Southern Mississippi (3-0).

Sunday the Aggies bounced USM 7-0 in the semi-finals, as Mitchell hurled her no-hitter, and slammed Northwestern State 5-0 for the tournament title.

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