

Wednesday, March 22, 1989

No. 11 Long Beach St. stops A&M

Aggie softballers fall victim to pair of late-inning rallies

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

LONG BEACH, CA. — It ain't over 'til it's over.

Those words rang true for Texas A&M once again Tuesday as 11th-ranked Long Beach State came alive in the late innings of both games of a doubleheader to sweep A&M by scores of 3-1 and 2-1 in college softball action at Long Beach.

A&M fell to 15-12 with the loss and travels to Fullerton, Ca., today to open play in the Pony Invitational against Cal-State Fullerton tonight at 8:30.

Long Beach State moved to 15-10 on the year with the victories.

Freshman pitcher Dana Mitchell took the loss on the mound in both games and pitched well. A lack of offensive support proved fatal in both games as the Aggie ace looked strong through the early stages in each game before Long Beach State mounted rallies.

"Dana pitched well," A&M Head

Coach Bob Brock said. "If we could've got some scoring and some more hits, we would've won both games."

Long Beach State jumped ahead early in the first game with a two-out rally in the first inning.

Chris Sison was hit by a pitch and moved to third on a pair of singles. Sison then scored on a base hit by center fielder Carrie Smith.

Aggie softball

• **Score:** Long Beach St. 3, A&M 1; Long Beach St. 2, A&M 1.

• **Record:** 15-12.

• **Next game:** Tonight at 8:30 vs. Cal-State Fullerton in the first round of the Pony Invitational at Fullerton, Ca.

Mitchell managed to get out of the inning without further damage and didn't allow another hit until Long Beach put together a two-run uprising in the fifth on three more hits.

Once again, Long Beach did the work with two outs.

Sison began this rally by singling to left and moved to second on a passed ball. Catcher Dena Turrietta tripled to score Sison and scored when first baseman Lisa Pedersen singled to left just beyond the glove of A&M short stop Rene Blaha.

Meanwhile, A&M was hitless until the sixth inning.

A&M scored a single run in the sixth when Michelle Mayfield singled to center and eventually scored on a single by Blaha. A&M left runners on first and second to squander its only chance to take the opener.

The nightcap was similar to the opener as Long Beach moved ahead early with a run in the fourth.

A&M mustered only a hit by Stacy Crainer in the fifth before a rally in the seventh garnered the only run for the Aggies in the second game.

Erika Eriksson singled to right to start the seventh. Sharon Herd, in as a pinch runner for Eriksson, then

scored when Crainer tripled down the third base line. Crainer was thrashed when Stephanie Schulte flied out to shallow right field and Mayfield struck out looking.

Long Beach won the game in the bottom of the inning when Pedersen singled on a controversial infield play and moved to second on a walk by Audra Desolva. Sandra Williams reached on an error by A&M second baseman Barbara Kajs to load the bases and Pedersen scored the winning run when pinch hitter Carrie Smith singled to left.

"We're just a base hit away from being a top team," Brock said. "This team never quits, they're always battling. We're not nearly the team we'll be at the end of the season."

The Aggies, who started the season with only 12 players, may have lost first baseman Carrie Heightler indefinitely when she sustained an ankle injury while fielding high throw during the fourth inning of game one.

Rose dodges questions on investigation

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Pete Rose hasn't been convicted of anything but he's already under armed guard.

The Cincinnati Reds' manager Tuesday ducked questions about a baseball investigation into "serious allegations," while a magazine reported Rose was rumored to have lost \$13,000 in one day at a race-track.

There was World Series-type security at Al Lang Stadium. Rose arrived about an hour before the Reds' exhibition game against the St. Louis Cardinals, walked briskly through two dozen reporters and photographers, and remained in his office, where an armed, uniformed guard stood watch.

Rose gave his usual pregame ra-

dio interview to Reds radio broadcaster Marty Brennaman, but shed no light on the investigation revealed Monday by Commissioner Peter Ueberroth and National League President A. Bartlett Giamatti.

Although major league baseball has not said what it is investigating, published reports last month said Rose's gambling was the focus. Gentlemen's Quarterly Tuesday released excerpts from its April issue, in which Rose's ex-wife and daughter describe him in unflattering words.

Karolyn Rose said her former husband once refused to acknowledge a gambling debt and later received a dead fish in the mail.

"He said he was Pete Rose, and he didn't have to pay no gambling

debts," Karolyn Rose said in the article.

In the piece, written by Pat Jordan, Rose's daughter, Fawn, call's him "the world's worst father."

"I will never understand why he never had any time for us," Fawn Rose said. "We didn't expect anything from him, except to just like us. All we ever did was love him and want him to love us back."

Rose's son, Pete Jr., also described his father as distant.

"We're not alike," said Rose Jr., a third baseman in the Baltimore Orioles' minor-league system. "I never hugged or kissed my dad. If I did, he'd think I was a sissy. You know, queer. My relationship with him is more player-manager. Sometimes he gives me a high five."

Rose, who has declined comment

on the commissioner's statement, told Brennaman, "Well, Marty, all I can tell you is we are cooperating with the commissioner's office, and we hope that it gets taken care of real fast, before opening day, so we can get down to business. And business is winning the National League West. That's all I'd like to say about that."

Rose's only other comment was a he first walked through the media gathering to enter the clubhouse, and a man held out a ball and asked for an autograph.

"Just what I want to do, sign an autograph," Rose muttered.

While the media waited for Rose, players worked out on the field, sneaking looks at the reporters. They had to pick their way through the crowd to get to the bat rack.

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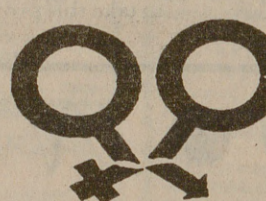
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Expect surprises in basketball regionals

March Madness (the NCAA basketball tournament, for those of you who have been living in a cave for the last week) continues this weekend as 16 teams left in the tournament fight it out for the right to go to Seattle.

This year's Sweet 16 is the most appealing in years as 13 of the top 16 seeds are still in the tourney.

The NCAA selection committee did an outstanding job in seeding the teams as all the top seeds and second seeds advanced.

This weekend's matchups will showcase some of the best basketball talent and programs in the country.

So, as I look into my crystal ball, this is who I see going to Seattle.

Let's start in the West, which was the weakest draw to start with and the most predictable.

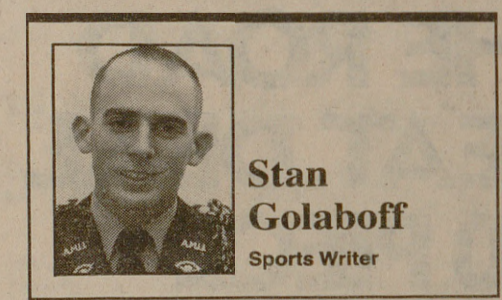
Arizona, the top seed, crushed it first two opponents by a combined 60 points and proved again that their talent runs much deeper than just Sean Elliot.

The Wildcats have one of the best starting fives in the country and a bench to support it. Gone are the Gumbies, the bench-warming wanna-bes from last season. The only thing that stands in Arizona's way is surprising Indiana.

It is a tribute to Bobby Knight and the Indiana program that the Hoosiers are even in contention for a trip to Seattle.

Indiana gave up over 100 points in three of its first six games. Knight reworked his lineup and went with three guards. The rest is history. Indiana only managed to win the Big Ten, which is an unbelievable 14-2 in post-season play this year.

Despite this latest miracle by Knight, the Arizona Wildcats will walk away with the West.



Stan Golaboff
Sports Writer

UNLV and Seton Hall, although excellent programs, cannot compete with the likes of Arizona and Indiana.

On we move to the Southeast where the top seed will not only not make it to Seattle, but may not make it past Thursday night's game.

Oklahoma struggled in the Big Eight Tournament and didn't get its act together until it played that awesome national power Louisiana Tech, which is better known for its women's team.

OU has drawn Virginia. The Cavaliers have the talent to beat the Sooners if the Oklahoma continues to play poorly.

The team to beat is North Carolina. Dean Smith proved that his ballclub can beat a national power even without J.R. Reid. The Tarheels have sent Michigan home the last two years and this year will be no different.

In the Midwest the top seed will also fail to get a ticket to Seattle.

Illinois will be stretched to the limit to beat Louisville. If Denny Crum can get his outside

shooters going, the Illini will wish they had been sent out West.

Missouri, which has beaten Oklahoma twice, will beat Syracuse only because the Orangemen believe that nothing in this world is free. So when they shoot free throws they promptly miss them. My grandmother, who's 79 and bed-ridden can shoot free throws better than the Orangemen.

So who gets the nod here? Louisville. Despite the fact that the Cardinals swan dived at the end of the season, Crum always does well in the tournament and this year he has the talent to make the trip to Seattle. Missouri will miss the big dance, only because they are being coached by the second assistant instead of a real head coach.

Back East, the team to beat is Georgetown. However, for those of you who must have an underdog to root for this is your region.

Georgetown will not play three sub-par games in a row and for that reason, NC State will be humiliated and sent home in the blowout game of the Sweet 16. There will be no 1983 miracle for Jimmy Valvano and the Wolfpack. The Wolfpack did win the ACC, but the Hoyas have too much talent and should win it all.

The underdog to root for is Minnesota. After beating Siena, Minnesota has assumed the Cinderella role. It shouldn't strike midnight for the Gophers until after they beat Duke. Duke is the weakest second seed in the tournament.

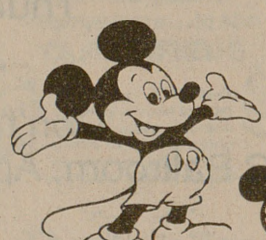
Duke's only weapon is Danny Ferry and he the most hyped-up white boy in basketball since Larry Bird in 1979.

So there it is. The 1989 Final Four will have Georgetown against Arizona and North Carolina against Louisville. Georgetown and North Carolina will fight it out for the title, with the Hoyas winning it all.

WALT DISNEY WORLD COLLEGE PROGRAM

Walt Disney World representatives will present an information session on the Walt Disney World College Program March 23, 1989 in room 601 Rodgers Tower at 5:00 p.m. Attendance at this presentation is required to interview for the Summer '89 College Program. Majors eligible for consideration include Business/Marketing, Communications, Recreations and Theater/Drama and related majors.

Contact:
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