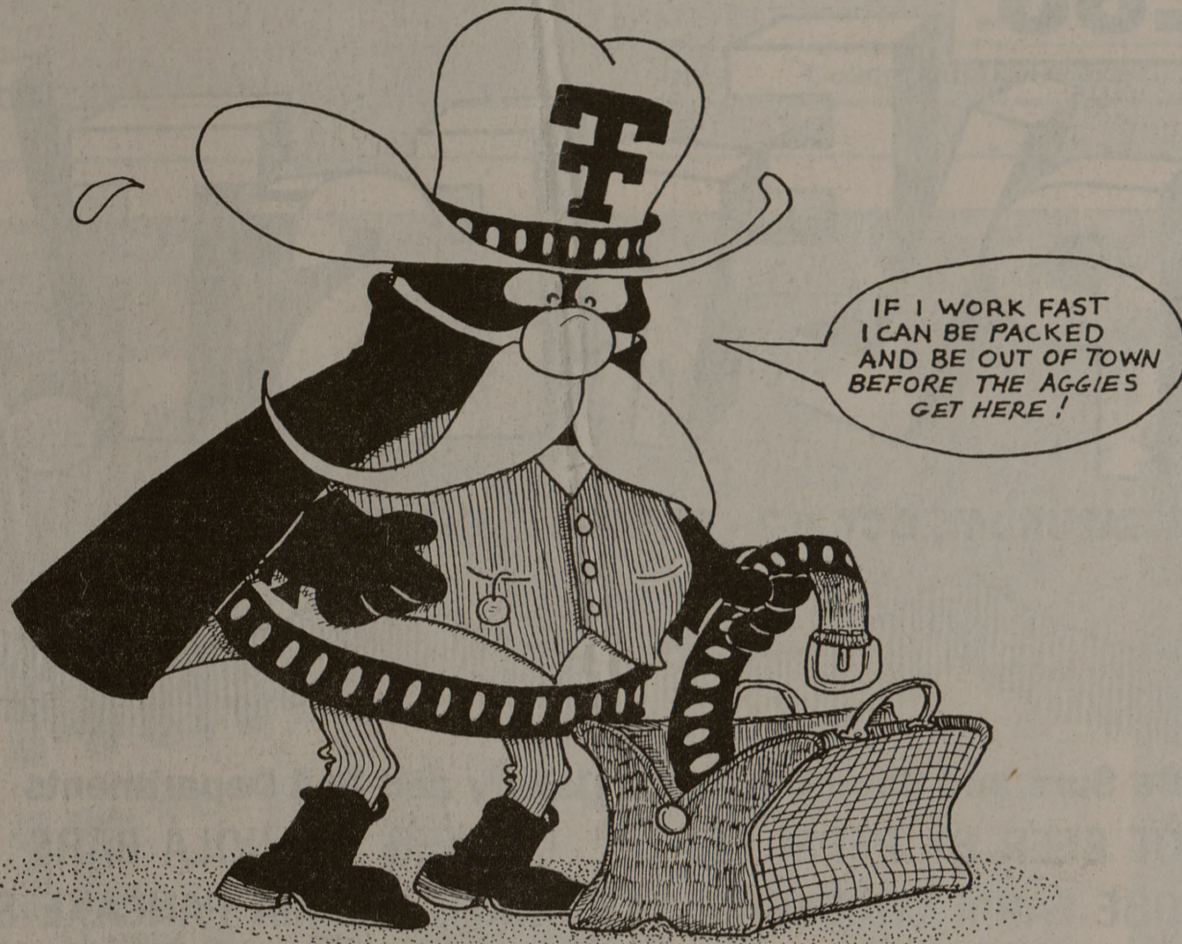


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Blue Jays offended by A's 'showboating'

TORONTO (AP) — The Toronto Blue Jays and Oakland Athletics took a day off from the American League playoffs Thursday and spent it trading insults.

Toronto third baseman Kelly Gruber accused Oakland of "showboating" during its victories in the first two games of the series.

Talking about Dave Parker's slow home-run trot in Game 2, Gruber said: "I don't particularly care for the hot dog type. It sort of makes me want to get some vengeance."

"It's sort of like rubbing salt in the wound," he said of Oakland's behavior. "I believe that you play hard and try to win with grace. I'm glad I'm not a pitcher because you would see a lot of heads ducking. There might be some messages I'd send up there. The staring and the long walks around the bases may be their style of game. I just don't like it. Showboating doesn't mean anything to me."

Toronto catcher Ernie Whitt started the verbal war on Wednesday when he said he was angry that Rickey Henderson didn't slide while stealing second base in the seventh inning of Oakland's 6-3 victory. Whitt said Henderson tried to show up Toronto. Henderson said he didn't slide because there wasn't a throw.

Oakland Manager Tony La Russa took exception to Whitt's comments. "If he's taking it personal and he's embarrassed, he's a fool," he was quoted as saying in a Toronto newspaper. La Russa said Thursday he did make the statement and then defended his team from Toronto's attacks.

"When you get to the postseason, there is a lot of emotion on both sides," La Russa said. "You celebrate. If I thought some of my people overdid it, I would be one of the first people to say, 'Keep it down.'"

"I saw the Blue Jays celebrate a lot the last two months. Hey, you get happy when you do something good. Now that we got something going good, I don't like some of the comments that make it sound like we're showing people up. We're excited that we're doing good, just as they would be."

Gruber, attending the off-day news conference, backed up Whitt and attacked Oakland anew.

Three Aggie netters invited to prestigious Austin tourney

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

The Texas A&M men's tennis team travels to Austin today to compete in the University of Texas All-American Invitational Tournament. The weekend tournament is the third tournament for the men in the fall season.

Three Aggies were invited to the tournament. Junior Matt Zisette, ranked 43rd in the country in singles play by the Volvo/Collegiate Tennis Fall Rankings that was released on Monday, and sophomore Doug Brown will compete in singles play.

The Aggies hosted the A&M

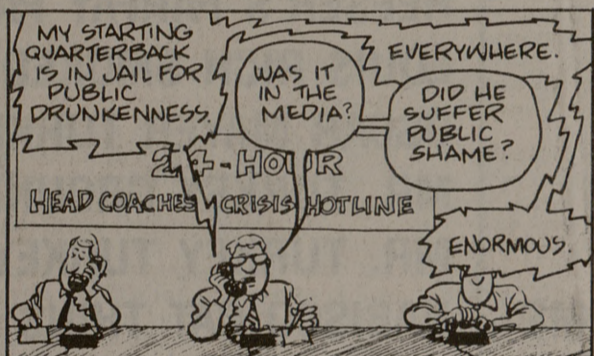
Four-Way Tournament last weekend. The doubles teams of Zisette/Espinosa and Brown/O'Donovan reached the doubles finals, but the event was called off.

The doubles team of Zisette and Gustavo Espinosa, ranked in a tie for 19th in the country, is the lone A&M entry in doubles.

"This is a very prestigious tournament and it is an honor for Matt, Gustavo and Doug to be invited," A&M Coach David Kent said. "Doug Brown has been doing a great job for us in singles and is setting a good example for the rest of the guys."

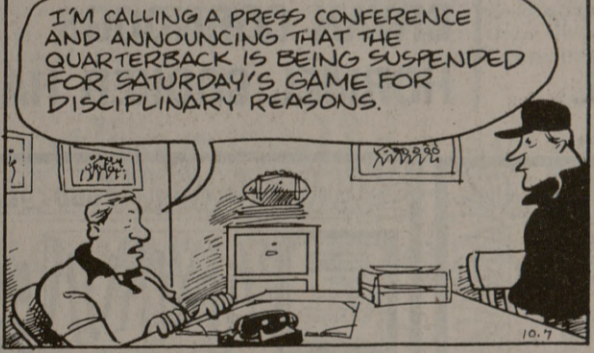
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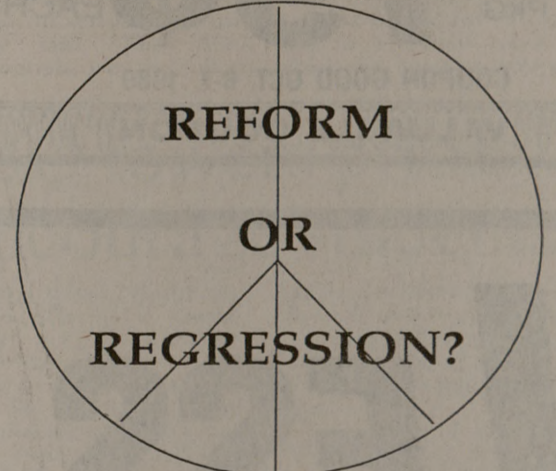


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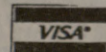
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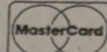
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