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Lady Aggies swept by UT in SWC play

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

The Texas A&M Lady Aggie volleyball team dropped its second Southwest Conference match Wednesday in Austin.

The 1988 defending national champion Texas Lady Longhorns swept A&M 15-13, 15-4, 16-14.

The Lady Ags looked like conference contenders in the first game as they gave the Lady Horns a fight. The game was tied 13-13 before Texas scored won on a kill and an ace.

After dropping the second game, the Lady Ags jumped out to a 7-1 lead in the third game. However, they couldn't hold on.

A&M was led by Krista Hierholzer, who had 15 kills, and Kelli Kellen, who had 14.

Hierholzer and senior setter Yvonne Van Brandt had 13 digs each to pace the Lady Aggies on defense.

Janine Gremmel led the Lady Horns defense with 13 digs, and Missy Kurt had 12. Freshman Erica Hibben contributed 8 blocks.

A&M Coach Al Givens found some good points in the match.

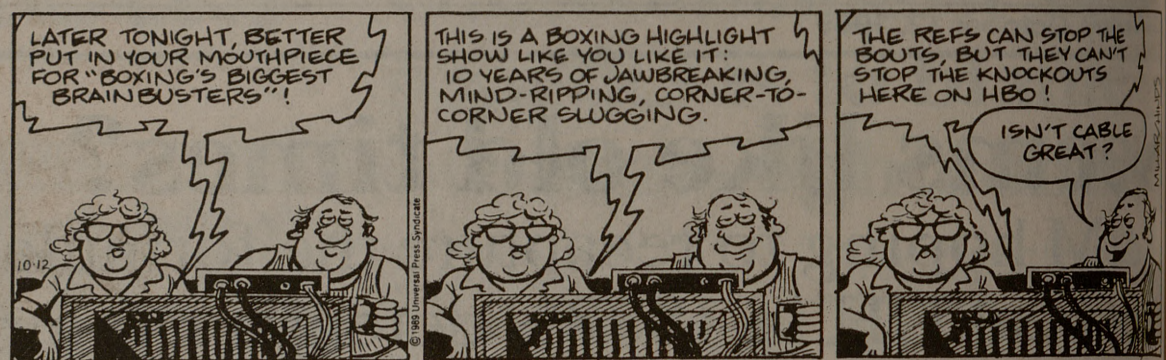
"There were some aspects that I was pleased with," Givens said. "One area we've been trying to strengthen is our blocking. We were able to do some optioning, and stop what was happening across the net."

Givens said that playing in Austin was distracting.

"It's tough to play here," he said. "I think we were capable of playing better. We lost our focus and concentration in the second game, but came back in the third game."

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



A's hope for spring's good luck

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Do spring training games mean anything? The Oakland Athletics sure hope so.

The A's won eight of nine exhibition meetings with San Francisco last spring, and outscored the Giants 65-32, averaging 7.2 runs to the Giants' 3.6.

The Athletics and Giants played a Bay Bridge Series in the last three games of the exhibition season, and Oakland swept.

Starting Saturday night, the Giants and A's will play another Bay Bridge Series, this time for the world championship.

Oakland center fielder Dave Henderson had a particularly easy time with San Francisco pitching last spring. Henderson was 12-for-23 (.522) with eight RBIs and two homers.

"People aren't the same as they are in spring training.

But if there's any team in the National League we know it's the Giants," said reliever Dennis Eckersley, who allowed one run and four hits in five innings against the Giants.

One of the A's best hitters against the Giants last spring is no longer with the team.

Luis Polonia was 13-for-33 with seven runs scored. He had three hits when the A's routed the Giants 20-7.

But Polonia was traded on June 20 along with Greg Cadaret and Eric Plunk for Rickey Henderson.

"I grew up out here and this is Giant country," Eckersley said, "so it's going to be a little tough on us."

During the spring, the A's held Will Clark to seven hits in 29 at-bats, but Kevin Mitchell was 12-for-21 (.522) with three homers and five RBIs.

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Pardee

(Continued from page 11)

his role there and ventured into the newly formed World Football League.

During its first season as an expansion team, Pardee led the Florida Blazers to the Eastern Division Championship and a berth in the WFL's championship game.

After the WFL folded in 1975, Pardee returned to the NFL and led the Chicago Bears to their first playoff berth in 12 years and was named NFC Coach of the Year.

In 1978, Pardee returned to the Washington Redskins. He spent three years as the Redskins' head coach and in 1979 took them to the NFC playoffs and was named the NFL Coach of the Year.

Pardee left football in 1981 to serve as the vice-president for marketing with the Runnels Mud Company.

His position there lasted only until the United States Football League

Last Year

(Continued from page 11)

formed in 1983.

Once in the USFL, Pardee as head coach led both the New Jersey Generals and the Houston Gamblers to division titles.

After the USFL disbanded in early 1987, Pardee took over the troubled reins of the Houston Cougars.

Since bringing the Run-and-Shoot to Houston, the Cougars have posted more than 100 school records. Their high-powered offense ranked fourth nationally in 1988 and the 1989 Cougars would be strong contenders for the SWC title if they weren't on NCAA probation.

Pardee finds his role as a college coach enjoyable and rewarding.

"You get a chance to see 18-year-old athletes mature," Pardee said. "They come in boys, away from home for the first time and I get to see them leave as responsible adults."

"It's self-gratifying to feel like you've had a little part in instilling that maturity."

in the game. But Lewis, as he had done so often in 1988, broke loose on a 26-yard run to finish the Cougars, 30-16.

But that was last year. A&M isn't blessed with the pass rushers that they were in 1988. Senior Jeroy Robinson, a starting inside linebacker this season, played exclusively at noseguard last year to try to disrupt the UH pass protection.

But UH has been consistent on offense and defense this season while A&M has been its direct opposite.

Junior quarterback Lance Pavlas still is trying to perfect the Aggies' new pass-oriented attack this year, and the defense started the season young and inexperienced.

Now they're just young.

more dramatic in 1989. Last year average score for the Cougars was 41-17. This season, it's been 59-6.

The reason for that is the emergence of Ware. Now a Heisman Trophy candidate, Ware is averaging 455 yards per game passing. He yet to play in the fourth quarter in 1989 because UH's games are so out of reach by then.

"They're a lot better than last year," Robinson said. "Ware is having an All-American year. They look real good. All the points and average they have is for a reason: Ware. His game's gotten a lot better than last year."

The A&M defense has spent the week reviewing films of the Cougars juggernaut and working hard

"We need a lot of pass pressure. We need to hit the receivers a lot of times. Hard." — Patrick Henry, A&M noseguard

Two of A&M's starting defensive linemen, Patrick Henry and Kevin Tucker, are freshmen. Henry, fourth in team tackles so far this season, summed up the basic approach A&M must take on defense this weekend.

"We need a lot of pass pressure," Henry said. "We need to hit the receivers a lot of times. Hard."

Still, A&M now faces the possibility of being blown out at home for the first time in several years. However, Robinson said the Aggies will be prepared.

"They've embarrassed a lot of people," he said. "They've scored a lot of points. But it's not like they're going to come in and catch us by surprise because we know what they can do. They have the same offense going as last year."

It may be the same offensive scheme, but the results have been far

practice. For Robinson and teammates, it's been a strict regimen of blitzing, blitzing and blitzing.

"We just look at this as a chance to establish ourselves again," he said. "It's going to be fun for us. It's a week for us defensively because we just go out and play. It's like sports ball."

But A&M will need more than a dominating defense if it is going to reproduce a win over Pardee's Run-and-Shoot. The offense will have to keep the ball. That might be tough to do against a defense that is averaging opponents an average of only 1.5 yards per play in 1989.

No one knows if the Aggies can reproduce the formula against UH that worked so well last year. Short said the Aggies will have to play the most error-free football to win Saturday.

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