



**Skeeter Brown**  
Sports Writer

## Two great teams, two great sports, two bad endings

It's the end of May and the Texas A&M baseball team and the Los Angeles Lakers find they have something in common.

The Lakers are at home in L.A. after being knocked out of the NBA playoffs by Phoenix and the Aggies find themselves idle in College Station.

The Aggies, who dropped five of their final six games, went from being a contender for the Southwest Conference baseball title to failing to receive a spot in the SWC's tournament.

You have to go back to head coach Mark Johnson's first year at A&M's to find a season that the Aggies failed to make a trip to the National Collegiate Athletic Association's regional baseball tournament.

In 1985, Johnson led the Aggies to a 39-16 record (12-9 in SWC play) as the A&M failed to return not only to the regionals but didn't receive a spot in the SWC tournament.

Johnson's Aggies built on their first-year disappointment — establishing what many believed would be a dynasty to equal Cliff Gustaffson's Texas Longhorns. During the course of the next four seasons, A&M gained four berths in the SWC tournament and received four bids to the NCAA's regional tourney.

Johnson's success story at A&M culminated last year when the Aggies went 58-7, were ranked No. 1 for 11 weeks in Baseball America's Poll. A&M was one win away from a trip to Omaha and a shot at the Collegiate World Series.

1990 may have been a disappointment for Johnson, but you can bet he won't dwell on the Aggies failure, but look for a way to recapture the magic that A&M baseball held in 1989.

## Robertson named baseball team's MVP

From Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M baseball team finished its regular season play and named left-handed pitcher Rich Robertson as the Marion Pugh Most Valuable Player as well as the C.E. "Pat" Olsen Outstanding Pitcher for the 1990 season.

The 6-4, 168-pound junior from Waller finished the season with a 10-1 record and a 1.77 earned run average — the lowest ERA in the Southwest Conference.

Robertson threw 106 strikeouts in 99.1 innings for the third-most in a single season in A&M history.

"Without question, Rich Robertson was the MVP of this team," said A&M head coach Mark Johnson. "He had a truly outstanding season for us. He gave us a chance to win every time he crossed the line."

Robertson started in 13 of the 15 games in which he played and was second on the team with seven complete games with three complete-game shutouts. Robertson also had one save on the year.

He was earlier named as the sole

A&M representative on The Associated Press All-Southwest Conference and United Press International baseball teams.

Rightfielder Brian Thomas received the Wally Moon Award for the team's most improved player.

Thomas, a freshman from Oregon who was expected to be redshirted this year, was inserted into the lineup to add some offense to the team. He quickly built a .290 batting average and saw defensive action when rightfielder Dan Robinson was injured in mid-March and Thomas was put in as a replacement.

The Marion Pugh Spirit Award was awarded to junior David Rollen who led the Aggies with a .297 batting average, tied for the lead with eight homeruns and was second with 37 RBI.

The Spirit Award is given to the member of the team who is a tough competitor, working hard every day of the season.

A&M finished the season with a 43-17 record, the fifth-best record in the school's history.

## Opportunity knocks for Odie Aggie netter awarded spot in NCAA championships

From Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M tennis team member Shaun O'Donovan received a berth for the 1990 National Collegiate Athletic Association Men's Tennis Championship held this week in Indian Wells, California.

O'Donovan faces Bryan Jones, a sophomore at North Carolina, in the first round of singles competition May 23.

While O'Donovan is ranked 68th in the Volvo/Intercollegiate Tennis Coaches Association poll, his opponent Jones is ranked 52nd.

"Jones is a solid baseline hitter and tough first-round opponent," said assistant coach Tim Drain.

As the first Aggie selected to the men's competition since Kimmo Alkio in 1985, O'Donovan is one of seven players selected from the Southwest Conference in a tournament field of 64.

A&M head coach David Kent said he is optimistic about O'Donovan's abilities.

"This is a real opportunity for Shaun. I think he can do well out there."

"He has the ability to raise his level of play."

O'Donovan, a 5-8, 150-pound senior from Pietermaritzburg, South Africa gathered a 17-7 spring record and received All-SWC honors as the Aggies' No. 1 player. He helped the A&M men's team finish the season with a 18-7 dual match record.

During the regular season, O'Donovan hit two hot streaks, winning seven in a row for a 7-0 dual match record and winning another six to change a shaky 17-9 record into a solid 23-9.

O'Donovan has defeated many ranked opponents including No. 16 David Kass of Michigan and No. 21 Luis Ruetto of Texas Christian.

On May 9, the Volvo/ITCA named O'Donovan as the recipient of the Region VI Head Arthur Ashe Sportsmanship Award, making him eligible for national honors.

## Runnin' with the wind



Photo by Jay Jones

University of Houston's Leroy Burrell celebrates as he finishes the 200 meter dash in 19.61 seconds, the world's fastest time under all condi-

tions, Saturday at the Frank G. Anderson Track Complex. Because of excessive winds, Burrell will not be credited with the world record.

## ACC, Pac-10 dominate field of NCAA regional baseball hopefuls

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Atlantic Coast Conference and the Pac-10 South dominate a field of 48 teams vying for the NCAA Division I baseball tournament championship.

The only ACC team chosen as a top seed was North Carolina, while the Pac-10 had Stanford and Arizona State selected as No. 1 teams in the eight-regional, double-elimination tournament.

"Those conferences had such outstanding selections and well-deserved selections," said Gene McArthur, chairman of the NCAA Baseball Committee.

The pairings were announced Monday.

Conference winners got 26 automatic bids to the regional tournaments, which will be played May 24-

28. Each regional will send its champion to the College World Series to be played at Roseblatt Stadium in Omaha, Neb., June 1-9.

The eight top seeds with region are: North Carolina, Northeast; Miami, Fla., Atlantic; Louisiana State, South I; Florida State, South II; Arkansas, Midwest; Texas, Central; Stanford, West I; and Arizona State, West II.

Top-ranked Stanford (52-10) will face Campbell (15-31), champions of the Big South Conference, in a first-round game at Stanford.

Defending champion and 13th-ranked Wichita State (44-17) will meet Georgia Southern (46-16) in the Midwest Regional in Wichita.

The ACC teams selected were 12th-ranked and top-seeded North Carolina (49-12), which goes against No. 6 Rutgers (33-17) at Waterbury, Conn.; No. 2 Clemson (42-20), which plays No. 5 Creighton (46-20) in the Central regional at Austin, Texas; No. 4 Georgia Tech (46-23),

which goes against No. 3 Boston (41-21) in the South I regional at Baton Rouge, La.; and No. 2 North Carolina State (46-18), which plays No. 5 Citadel (40-12) in the Atlantic regional at Coral Gables, Fla.

In addition to Stanford, the Pac-10 South teams chosen were second-ranked and top-seeded Arizona State (49-14), which goes against No. 6 Pennsylvania (22-15) in the West regional at Tempe, Ariz.; No. 3 Southern Cal (37-20), which plays No. 5 Southern Mississippi (41-20) in the South I; and No. 4 UCLA (35-24), which plays No. 3 South Alabama (41-18) in the Midwest regional.

"We looked at the regular-season performance as well as the conference in making the decision," McArthur said. "The committee looks at the total picture and tries to accommodate geographic."

Campbell, Texas-Arlington and Southern Mississippi are making their first appearances.

## Homestead Savings Moves to Shiloh Center May 29

Homestead Savings Association of College Station moves to new, expanded facilities at 2553 South Texas Avenue, effective Tuesday, May 29, President William F. Phillips Jr. announced.

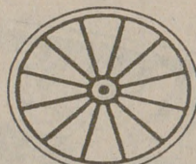
The Shiloh Shopping Center which Homestead will anchor, will be renamed "Homestead Place," Phillips added. "This move will triple the floor space for our headquarters, expand our inside tellers from 3 to 6, increase our drive-in lanes from 2 to 3 and provide more seating for customers and more parking for cars."

The local banker noted that Homestead has known for some time that the building it has occupied since formation in 1977 was too small.

"Our customer base continues to increase and our services have expanded. But we are committed to move very

slowly to incur debt. That policy allows us to make profits while some institutions with more elaborate facilities posted losses. We have waited for an opportune time to make a move and the Shiloh deal fell into our lap. Our customers have been more than patient while we addressed the need for larger quarters. We think our move will make a positive statement about the thrift industry in the community. Our new offices are highly visible, right in the heart of College Station and convenient for our customers. We are very excited about the benefits this move will mean to our customers."

Homestead is College Station's only locally-owned savings and loan association. Phillips helped form the institution and is the only president to direct the 12-year-old banking business.



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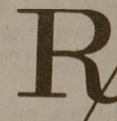
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