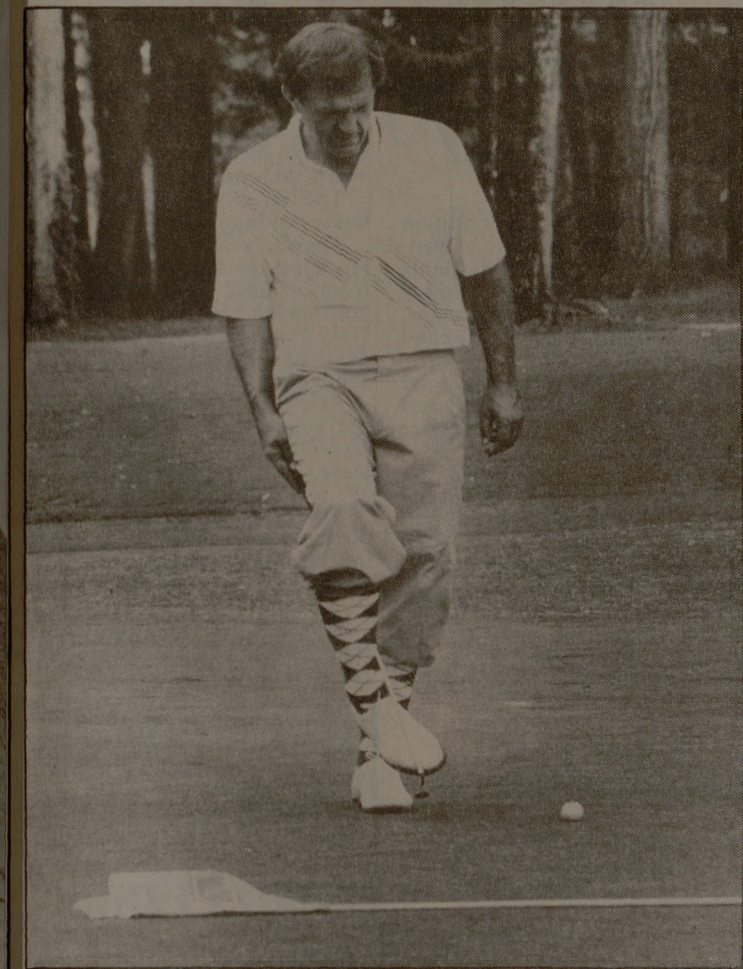


Tuesday, July 3, 1990

Putting differences aside



Photos by Thomas Lavin

A&M former football coach Jackie Sherrill (left) and Aggie athletic director John David Crow (above) donned their spikes Saturday in the first Jack Pardee Celebrity Golf Tournament at Bentwater on Lake Conroe.

Ag recruit picks A&M over Twins

By DOUGLAS PILS
Of The Battalion Staff

At one time or another it's the dream of most every young man to play professional baseball and sign a big bonus contract.

The Texas A&M football and baseball teams got good news this past weekend when Jeff Granger decided to postpone that dream for at least three more years.

Granger, an all-state quarterback and pitcher from Orangefield, turned down a \$100,000 offer from the Minnesota Twins in favor of attending A&M.

Granger said when it came right down to it, the money just wasn't that big of a deal.

"I decided that Texas A&M was where I needed to be," he said. "Money was not a issue in my final decision ... getting my degree from A&M is more important to me."

Granger, who was drafted in the 14th round of the amateur draft by the Twins in June, said he's not worried about this being the last time he gets drafted.

"I'm not afraid of injury or anything preventing me from being drafted again; just knowing I was good enough to be drafted this time is good enough."

A&M head football coach R.C. Slocum, who had said earlier that Granger's development would be greatly enhanced by attending A&M, was unavailable for comment.

Granger said A&M head baseball coach Mark Johnson, echoed Slocum's sentiments.

"Coach Johnson said that I would obtain better instruction at A&M from pitching coach Jim Lawler than I would in the minors," Granger

said. "In the minor leagues my only instruction would be from coaches who roam from team to team."

At 6-4, 193 pounds, Granger is a highlight on one of the most highly regarded football recruiting classes in the Southwest Conference. Granger, who completed 125 of 276 passes for 1,923 yards and 20 touchdowns, said he is ready to start throwing the football again.

"I'll be taking some classes at A&M during the second summer session and I'll start preparing for the season then," he said.

"Coach Slocum has told me to come ready to play and to look for some playing time next year."

In addition to taking snaps this fall, Granger will have an opportunity to break into an A&M pitching staff decimated by the graduation of three pitchers and the signing of juniors Rich Robertson and Bo Siberz by the Pittsburg Pirates and the New York Yankees respectively.

Granger led his Orangefield team to the Class 3A state tournament with a 16-0 record and 205 strikeouts in 107 innings before losing a heartbreaker in the state semifinals. Granger gave up four runs, three of which were unearned in a 4-3 loss Southlake Carroll.

Granger said he just finished playing summer baseball last Sunday, throwing a three-hitter with 14 strikeouts giving his team the championship in the first J.B. Bearden Memorial Tournament held at Lamar University.

With the completion of summer baseball and negotiations with the Twins over, Granger said he is ready to start school and get to work on the 1990 football season.

"There will be other drafts," Granger. "Right now I'm just eager to get to A&M."

Clay Rasmussen
Sports Editor

Aggies' future brighter than that of slippery Hogs

Ask any politician and he'll tell you that pre-election polls are nothing more than a way to gauge the effectiveness of a campaign. Leading polls doesn't necessarily give you an election. But maybe football is a different story.

Take note Aggies. Both Dave Campbell's Texas Football and Lindy's Southwest Football magazines have chosen A&M to reclaim a title it hasn't held for two years — Southwest Conference Champions.

Texas A&M football went through a growing spurt last year. With a new head coach, six new assistants, an under-confident quarterback and a revamped offense, no one thought the Aggies could pull off an 8-4 season.

No one, that is, except Dave Campbell.

In the 1989 issue of Texas Football, Campbell gave the nod to A&M over Arkansas and this year, he gives the Aggies the same spot in the SWC — first place and the Cotton Bowl.

However, little things have ways of screwing up possibilities. Before loyal Ags go out this January and rent a room in Dallas, be wary.

Ghost of New Year Future

Things appear bright for A&M this season. With the return of a healthy Darren Lewis and with Lance Pavlas armed with the confidence of a premier quarterback, the Aggies might be poised to recapture lost glory.

A&M stocked up on signing day by inking 23 seniors and its recruiting class is considered among the top in the nation. The cloud of uncertainty that loomed over the program when Jackie Sherrill left has blown over and with Slocum's successful season, A&M is looking mighty attractive to high school recruits.

"Because of the NCAA investigation, more and more players were lost," Slocum said. "Rival recruiters used that effectively against us ... we couldn't have survived another (recruiting year) like last year."

Ghost of New Year Present

So that takes us to the present time.

If spring workouts are any indication of the intensity of the 1990 Aggies, the SWC is in for punishment. The A&M defense was rumored as lacking depth on the line, but Slocum filled in the gaps. And as always, the linebacker corps is the defensive mainstay and heart of the Wrecking Crew.

Maybe that's why Campbell and Lindy have again given the nod to A&M. But, once again both could be too quick in giving the Aggies top SWC billing.

What if the defensive line isn't powerful enough to shut down a running attack? What if Darren Lewis is injured and is lost for the season? What if Lance Pavlas crumbles under the pressure of one of the toughest schedules in the SWC?

Yes, hold off on reserving those Cotton Bowl tickets — the Aggies could find themselves as vice-president to Arkansas football's political arena.

Rangers lose to Red Sox despite 8 innings of blistering heat from steamy Ryan express

BOSTON (AP) — The wind was blowing in, a typical pitcher's gale at Fenway Park.

And for 8½ innings, Nolan Ryan of the Texas Rangers and Mike Boddicker of the Boston Red Sox made opposing batters feel like they were in a blown back to the dugout.

But then Kevin Romine, facing reliever Kenny Rogers (2-4) to lead off the ninth, hit his first homer of the season, lifting the Red Sox to a 3-2 win and Boddicker to his 10th straight victory Monday.

"I thought the home run would be the last thing that would beat you today with the wind blowing in," Texas manager Bobby Valentine said.

"We were all rooting for the long bomb and he fought off some tough pitches until he got one he could handle," Boston manager Joe Morgan said.

"I knew I hit it well, but I didn't know if I hit well enough," Romine said after just his third homer in 246 games with Boston since 1985.

For Boddicker (11-3), who gave up 10 hits, with nine strikeouts and three walks, it was his 12th victory in 15 career decisions over Texas.

"He doesn't have the greatest stuff, but he keeps you off balance," Texas' Rafael Palmeiro said. "He did a great job."

Ryan failed in a bid for his 297th victory, giving way to Rogers after throwing 144 pitches in eight innings.

"I didn't have good command," said Ryan, who allowed seven hits, struck out seven and walked four. "I didn't have good control of the curve and changeup. Other than that I pitched all right."

He became the only pitcher with 100 or more strikeouts in 22 seasons, one more than Don Sutton. Ryan is second in the AL with 104 strikeouts, eight behind California's Mark Langston.

The 43-year-old right-hander, who has not won in four starts at Boston since May 6, 1977, is just 2-8

lifetime at Fenway Park.

Trailing 2-1, the Red Sox tied the score in the seventh as Romine grounded a single to left and Billy Joe Robidoux, just reactivated after shoulder surgery, lined an RBI double to left for his first hit since April 14.

The Red Sox took a 1-0 lead in the third. With one out, Wade Boggs reached first when second baseman Jeff Huson backed up on a routine grounder and threw too late.

Boggs took third on Jody Reed's league-leading 25th double down the thirdbase line and scored on Tom Brunansky's sacrifice fly to center.

Texas got a run in the fifth as Huson lined a single off shortstop Luis Rivera's glove, stole second and scored on Rafael Palmeiro's line single to center.

The Rangers broke the tie in the sixth on Geno Petralli's third hit, a double to left-center, and Kevin Reimer's two-base hit to right.

'Nuclear fishin' at Squaw Creek gets glowing reports

GLEN ROSE (AP) — Danny Teague has heard all the fission jokes, including the line about nuclear fishin'.

There's the crack about how good night fishing will be at Squaw Creek Lake now that the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant is on line.

It is easy to find fish at night, goes the gag, because they glow in the dark. How about boats equipped with Geiger counters instead of depth finders?

Teague is superintendent of Squaw Creek Park, which opponents of nuclear power fear could wind up in China if Comanche Peak ever suffers the dreaded meltdown syndrome.

Squaw Creek lies between Glen Rose and Granbury, southwest of Fort Worth, and it's a sleeper for recreation in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Maybe it's a sleeper because people really are fearful of things that glow in the dark, but the 3,272-acre lake is a test case in more ways than one.

"Comanche Peak is only the second nuclear power plant in Texas, and it's the first one with its own dedicated lake for a cooling source," Teague said. "It's going to be interesting to see what impact the warm water effluent has on the fishery."

Comanche Peak fired up one of its two nuclear generators in May. Crews have been taking the power up slowly, then backing off for tests. To date, no impact has been felt on water temperatures. Biologists expect a significant impact though — some bad, some good.

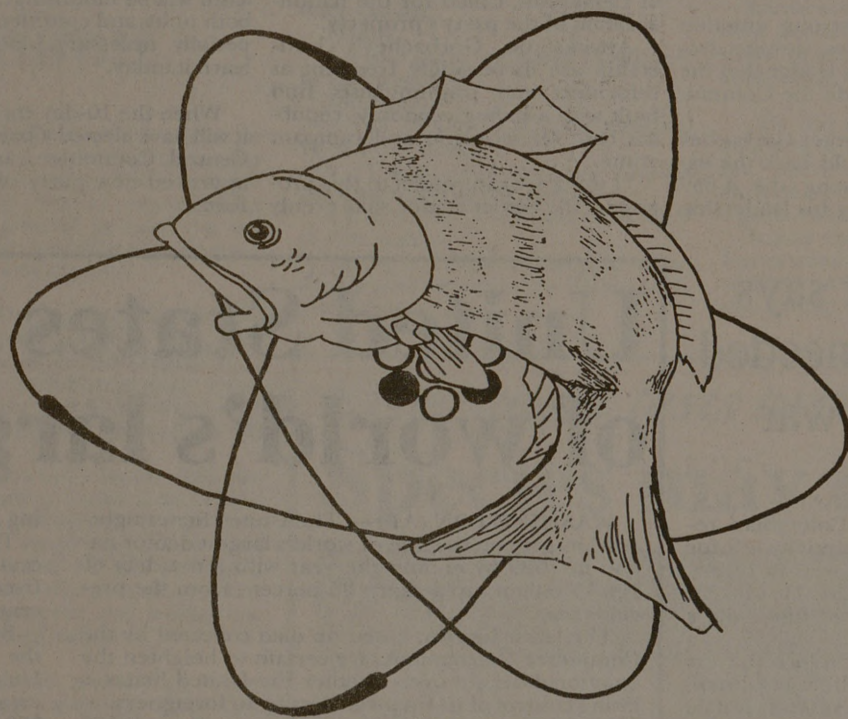
"One of the unique features of Squaw Creek is a reproducing walleye population," Waco biologist Ken Sellers said. "Walleye like deep, cold water, and they do well on rocky shorelines, which Squaw Creek has. We don't

think the warming water will help the walleyes, and it might not be good for small-mouth bass.

"Thermal effluent is not all bad, however. Heat is a form of energy, and the lake will receive some benefit from the warm water.

There will be tradeoffs."

Examples of small power-plant lakes renowned for the quality of their fishing include Monticello and Fairfield, both East Texas lakes famous for bass. Fairfield also has excellent fishing for hybrid stripers and redbfish.



Graphic by Jayme Blaschke

Squaw Creek differs considerably, because it's in a different part of the state. It has extremely clear water and very deep water with steep, rocky banks. As Teague says, it will be interesting to see what affect Comanche Peak has on the lake and also on the park, an under utilized recreation opportunity that, since Teague has been there the past five years, has never had a capacity camping crowd.

A scenic park that did not suffer any high-water problems during the spring floods, Squaw Creek has 14 campsites developed for RVs and has space for about 60 tents.

"On a busy weekend, we'll have 10 to 11 RVs and maybe 15 to 20 tents," Teague said. "It's not an easy park to get into, and that might keep the crowds away."

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires everyone who enters the park to register. Teague says the registration is part of the NRC accountability plan. In case of a nuclear emergency, it's important to know how many people are in the park or on the lake so they can all be evacuated.

While registration is a technicality, it reminds visitors of the potential danger and probably makes some people nervous. The park fee structure also may keep visitors away. Entry fees are \$3 per person (\$8 per vehicle for three or more people in the same vehicle).

It also might help if people knew that nearly three miles of shoreline around the lake is accessible to bank fishing, and there also is 100 feet of dock from which to fish. In fact, the biggest bass Teague knows to have been caught from Squaw Creek, 10.25 pounds, was caught from the dock.

It's really the only place in Texas where you can do some nuclear fishin'.

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