

**Steve O'Brien**  
Sports Writer

## Duke stands no chance against UNLV

The idea that Duke has even a small chance to upend UNLV reminds me of a Vanilla Ice song. In "Ice, Ice, Baby", Ice calls himself a "lyrical poet." After looking at my CD case and seeing names like Jim Morrison, Bono and John Lennon, I have to say, "I don't think so."

And after watching the Rebels squash hapless teams in the NCAA tournament this month, I have to say to Duke fans, "I don't think so."

The clincher for me was a high school basketball game about four years ago in Dallas.

Larry Johnson, the current star for UNLV, was a senior at Skyline. To start this particular game, Johnson hit the opening tip-off to a teammate. Johnson bolted down court and caught a return pass from the player.

To stop him from getting an easy layup, an opposing player tried to intentionally foul Johnson by grabbing on to his arm.

So Johnson calmly proceeded to dunk the ball, and hang on the rim with the opposing player still dangling from his arm.

And some say Johnson isn't even the Rebel's best player. Stacey Augmon, Anderson Hunt, Greg Anthony and George Ackles round out the UNLV starting five.

If Rebels have an Achilles' heel it is their bench. Head coach Jerry

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## Doubles troubles doom Lady Ag netters

By Chris Whitley  
The Battalion

The Texas A&M women's tennis team blew an early lead and lost to the University of Utah Wednesday.

After winning four of the six singles matches, the Lady Aggies were swept in the doubles matches by the 21st-ranked Lady Utes in losing the dual match, 5-4.

A&M head coach Bobby Kleinecke said injuries have been a major factor in the team's present four-match losing streak.

"When you're not at full strength, it makes it difficult," Kleinecke said. "But we definitely had some bright spots today."

The Lady Aggies' bright spots included senior Tami Agassi who defeated Utah's number-one seed, Allison Bradford, 6-2, 6-2. A&M's Jenny Graf, who had not hit a ball in two

weeks due to injury, won her match over Stephanie Ball, 7-6, 6-0.

The doubles contests, however, were a different story.

Utah's tandem of Bradford and Ruth Ann Stevens, the 13th-ranked doubles team in the nation, was too much for Agassi and Cindy Churchwell, 6-3, 7-5.

In the final and deciding match of the day, Janine Burton-Durham and Anna Schlumpf could not keep pace with Utah's Suzi Costa and Sharla Barone, 6-2, 6-1.

The Lady Aggies' record drops to 8-10, but they are undefeated in conference play.

Three of the Lady Aggies are fighting off injuries including the team's top player, Lynn Staley, who sat out the match.

The loss of Staley really hurts the team in doubles, according to Kleinecke.

"She's a franchise player," Kleinecke said. "When the number-one doubles

team is out, it puts pressure on the rest of them. So we're struggling in doubles right now."

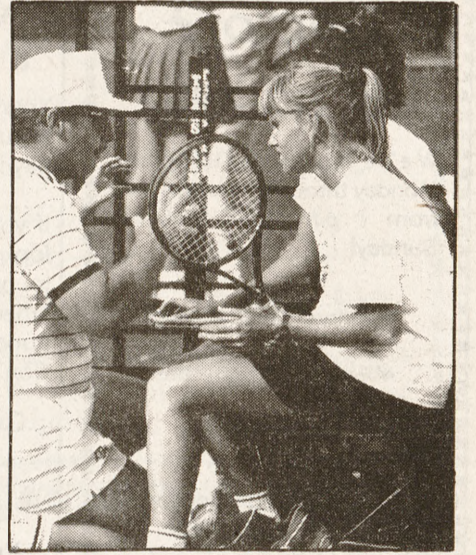
In other matches, Churchwell lost to Stevens, 6-4, 6-4. Burton-Durham defeated Costa, 6-2, 6-7, 6-2. Joanne Maki lost to Barone, 6-2, 6-4. Schlumpf defeated Julie Kempin, 6-2, 6-1.

Also, Graf and Allyson Strauch came up short to Kempin and Becky Huereque of the Utes, 6-1, 6-4.

Staley should be ready to play in their next conference game against TCU on April 6, but she will probably sit out their next match against fifth-ranked Pepperdine on Friday.

The Waves are the highest-ranked team the Lady Aggies will face this season and Kleinecke said it will be a challenge.

"They're as good as Oklahoma State (eighth-ranked) who knocked us all over the court," Kleinecke said. "We'll give it our best shot. That's all we can ask."



DARRIN HILL/The Battalion  
A&M tennis coach Bobby Kleinecke talks to Cindy Churchwell and Tammi Agassi.

## Hernandez working on new role, repertoire

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Houston Astros pitching coach Bob Cluck is trying to convince pitcher Xavier Hernandez he doesn't have to throw his sinker every time to excel in the major leagues.

Hernandez listens to the speech right up to the point he gets behind in the count.

Then he goes to his best weapon.

"He's not throwing his other pitches as much as I want him to, but it's human nature if you're fighting for a job, you'll go out there and throw your best pitch," Cluck said.

Hernandez, the front-runner for the No. 5 spot in the Astros' youthful rotation, survived last season in the majors with his sinker ball, but he's trying to add sliders and split-finger fastballs to his repertoire.

Cluck reviewed the dilemma after a recent spring performance.

"He threw almost all sinkers the other day, it was so good that he rode it for five innings," Cluck said. "There's something to be said for that, but I'm trying to get him to throw a few more sliders and splits."

Hernandez appeared in 34 games as a reliever for

the Astros last season, his first full year in the major leagues.

"I think I've thrown the ball well, but I haven't mixed up my pitches," Hernandez confessed. "I just need to work in my slider and forkball a little more. My sinker is exactly where I want it to be."

"I'm pitching aggressively. It's just working in those other two pitches a little more."

Pitching aggressively was one of Hernandez's traits last season and he intends to continue pitching inside to hitters this season.

"The biggest benefit playing for the Astros last year was watching Danny Darwin (former Astros reliever) pitch," Hernandez said. "He's a real aggressive type of pitcher. If you can work that inside corner there's not too many people that can hit that pitch."

He was ejected from a game last June 17 when he tied a club record by hitting three batters in a game. Manager Art Howe protested the ejection and he too received the boot.

"A lot of pitchers are afraid if they go for the inside corner because if it gets out over the middle of

the plate, that's when you get hurt," Hernandez said.

"I really felt that throwing inside this winter (Mexican League) was important for me and felt I came back from Mexico more accomplished at it."

He still has to prove he can handle being the fifth starter but he saw his chances improving during an off-season of trading in which Darwin, Larry Andersen and Dave Smith all left the team by trade or free agency.

"No doubt about it, whenever we got rid of the bulk of the pitching staff it opened up a lot of spots," he said. "There's definitely a lot of competition in this lockerroom."

Hernandez, a native of Port Arthur, Texas, was drafted by Toronto in 1986 and came to the Astros in December 1989. He had a 2-1 record and 4.62 earned run average with the Astros last season.

The key for 1991 will be his inside pitching, Hernandez said.

"I don't see how I ever got away from throwing inside," he said.

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The Texas A&M University Student Publications Board is accepting applications for

### Editor, *The Battalion*

Summer 1991

The summer editor will serve from April 29, 1991, through August 16, 1991.

### Editor, *The Battalion*

Fall 1991

The fall editor will serve from August 19, 1991, through December 6, 1991.

Qualifications for editor of *The Battalion* are:

2.0 overall and major GPR at the time of taking office and during the term of office;

At least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on *The Battalion* or comparable student newspaper,

OR

At least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper,

OR

At least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II) or equivalent. The 12 hours must include completion of or enrollment in JOUR 301 (Mass Comm Law) or equivalent.

### Editor/Producer, *AggieVision*

1991-92

The *AggieVision* editor/producer is responsible for staffing, producing and promoting A&M's 1991-92 video yearbook. Minimum GPR is 2.0.

### Editor, *Aggieland*

1992

The *Aggieland* editor is responsible for staffing, producing and promoting A&M's 1992 yearbook. Minimum GPR is 2.0.

Application forms are available in the Journalism Department office, 230 Reed McDonald Building, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Completed forms must be submitted to Francia Eldridge, 230 Reed McDonald, by 1 p.m. Friday, April 5, 1991. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Publications Board Meeting beginning at 2 p.m. Monday, April 8, 1991, in room 015 Reed McDonald.