

KEEPIN' COOL

A&M waterski team improves, expands

By MATTHEW J. RUSH

The Battalion

While most are slaving in school or sweating in the hot Texas summer weather, a few of the Texas A&M students are participating in a growing sport that is both relaxing and refreshing.

The Texas A&M waterski club and team are coming off another successful season and continue to grow in size and popularity.

This spring, the team finished first at the "Polar Bear," the first meet of the year held at Lake Somerville. The team also took a first place in the trick competition of the opening competition.

Daniel Petershagen, the president of the club, said A&M's ski team has steadily improved over the last few years.

Though the club has a mere 25 members this summer, it usually boasts 40-50 members in the fall and spring. The top 20 compete in tournament action.

Because of the program's recent success, it has continued to grow in size and better its reputation and status around the region.

"The past two years, we were not a very good team," Petershagen said. "This year we had an excellent ski team and an excellent trick team."

The waterski Aggies continued to be successful as they went on to finish in the top three of several of their major tournaments, including second place at Oklahoma, third at Southwest Texas and third at Louisiana State.

A normal tournament for the team sees three separate areas of competition.

The first day of a weekend meet is taken up by men and women's slalom and trick competition. Tricks entail flips and 360-degree turns, among other death-defying maneuvers. Another full day is devoted to the jumping competition.

The A&M team belongs to the South-Central Conference, which includes teams from Oklahoma, Louisiana and Texas. The schools that compete in waterskiing are the University of Texas, Stephen F. Austin, Southwest Texas, Baylor, Texas Christian, Oklahoma State, Louisiana State, Louisiana Tech, the University of Southern Louisiana, and Northern Louisiana University.

Two of these teams, USL and NLU, are the only teams that grant scholarships, while the rest of the squads consist purely of willing and able skiers.

The A&M ski team is funded by the Intramural Sports Club and by ski members' dues. Petershagen said all of the money donated to the club goes to provide for the maintenance of their operation.

"The money is used to pay for our private boat site, the boat payment, and for tournament expenses when we have travel to compete," he said.

Team captain Chet Lenox, a junior from Phoenix, Arizona, agreed that the ski team had a very positive season and added that A&M offers very strong competition to the conference.

"The spring season was the most successful season since I've been here," Lenox said. "We were definitely the best non-scholarship team in the conference."

Lenox said the atmosphere is quite different between the fall and spring seasons.

"The spring is a little more laid back," Lenox said. "In the fall, because we compete as a team, the pressure is greater to earn a regional berth so that we have a chance to go to nationals."

Petershagen also commented that participation by the student body is welcomed and is good, clean fun for anyone who would like to take part.

"We want anyone who wants to come out. Ski for fun or for competition, either way it's a good time."

The Texas A&M waterski club and team are open to anyone who wants to join. Petershagen said questions about the club should be directed to him at 696-3271. The team practices regularly Monday through Friday 2-6 p.m. at Lake Somerville.

Nude men don't sell shoes, says SI

Last Thursday evening, CBS-TV News broadcast a story about Sports Illustrated magazine turning down an advertisement that showed the Canadian men's soccer team wearing Adidas shoes.

Nothing but Adidas shoes.

Naturally, this caught my attention. The players are, of course, standing with hands clasped in the "blocking wall" stance. The slogan is something like "No one will take you seriously unless you're wearing Adidas shoes." I thought it was kind of a cute ad, myself.

SI turned down the ad because it was "inappropriate." This is the magazine that produces the annual "Sweaty Babes in Scraps of Spandex" issue. Those babes are, however, all female, and the irony inherent in SI's decision not to run the Adidas ad was the point of the CBS report.

Of course, CBS had to show sixteen clips of women in provocative poses to make sure America understood exactly what the swimsuit issue is. (They did also leave the soccer team on the screen for a while, though. That's how I noticed what the ad was for.)

Now, I don't have a problem with the SI swimsuit issue. I might even buy their argument that it's an American tradition. I'm not a particularly touchy person, and actually, I'm guilty of sexism myself. That poster of Troy Aikman over my desk ain't there just because I'm impressed by his passing statistics.

I do believe in equal time, though. Double standards are a crock. If millions of men will buy a

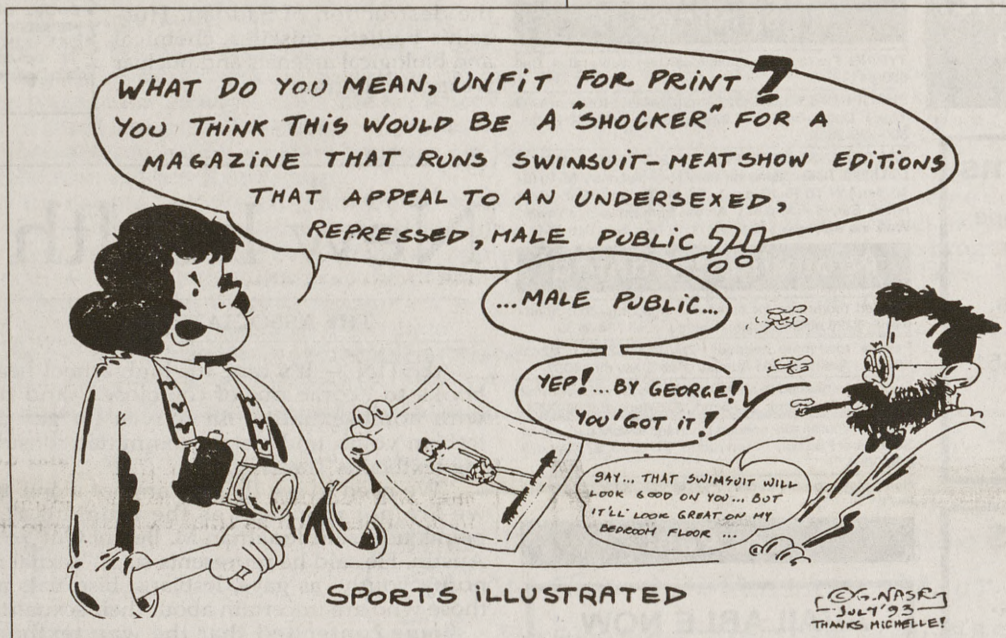


SUSAN OWEN
Sports Editor

magazine to look at nearly naked damp women, then I firmly believe that millions of women would buy a magazine to look at nearly naked damp men. Or at least I'll defend to the death their right to do so. God, I love America.

Something's wrong when a major publication like Sports Illustrated can decide that women in swimsuits are a good way to increase sales while men in ... shoes ... are unfit to be shown to the nation (hey, they looked pretty fit to me.)

At least their decision was unusual enough to attract



Astros' Swindell on injured list

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Greg Swindell's homecoming season might be about to go from simply rotten downright disastrous.

It took another wrong turn Tuesday when the Houston Astros put him on the 15-day disabled list because of a strained left shoulder.

The left-hander, who signed a four-year, \$17 million free-agent contract last winter, was traded out of the Astrodome Monday after dropping to 6-8 in a 10-4 thumping by the St. Louis Cardinals.

Then he told team officials he's got a sore left shoulder.

"He passed that news after the game ... and I'll get to the bottom of it," said Astros general manager Bill Wood, who met with manager Art Howe after the game to decide on the next step for Swindell.

"After our meeting, we looked out to see if he

was there, but he was gone. We'll talk to him and see what's going on. He'll probably have some tests."

Swindell gave up 10 hits, including a home run, and six runs in five innings against the Cardinals. He has given up 15 home runs in 111 innings this season and compiled a 4.95 ERA.

The Houston native, who didn't mention the shoulder problem when talking with reporters after the game, returned home to high expectations last winter.

"This hasn't been a good season, especially at home," Swindell said Monday. "There's a lot of people who are expecting a lot. You feel you have a lot to prove, and even though that's not the case, you feel the pressure."

Astros spokesman Tyler Barnes on Tuesday said he didn't know whether Swindell had yet been scheduled to see a physician. Team doctor Tom Mehlhoff did not immediately return a telephone call from The Associated Press.

Lewis may compete in U.S. Olympic Festival

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — World record-holder Carl Lewis is a possible entrant in the men's 100 meters at the U.S. Olympic Festival, officials said Tuesday.

The U.S. Olympic Committee is awaiting final word from Lewis' Santa Monica Track Club and is holding a spot for the two-time Olympic 100 champion, according to Gayle Plant, a USOC spokeswoman.

"He is understood to want to run in the 100 meters. A spot is being held for him," Plant said. Lewis, who holds the world mark of 9.86 seconds, would compete for the East team based on his graduation from a high school in Willingboro, N.J., she said.

Ryan up to speed in practice

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Texas — Texas Rangers pitcher Nolan Ryan is expected to throw about 90 pitches at full-speed Wednesday for the first time since going on the disabled list two months ago.

"He's going to throw all his pitches at high intensity for the first time," Rangers spokesman John Blake said Tuesday from Milwaukee.

Ryan has been throwing for several days and has not felt any stiffness in his right arm or hip during his workouts at Arlington Stadium with former Texas pitching coach Tom House, Blake said.

Various injuries have limited Ryan, the all-time strikeout and no-hit king, to three starts this year. He's scheduled to return July 19 at home against Milwaukee.

"It's not etched in stone or anything. That's only a target date if everything works out," Blake said.

Ryan was slowed early this season by arthroscopic surgery to repair damaged knee ligaments, then went on the disabled list May 17 after straining his left hip.

A few weeks later, he accidentally cut his foot by stepping on the blade of a water ski.

the attention of the media. Of course, the CBS reporter did say, "Some people actually consider this a serious issue."

Now, skimpily-clad studs and babes may be a frivolous topic, and may have looked to CBS like exactly the ticket to round off their evening's news coverage (and boost the ratings? Nah, I'm being cynical.) But saying women are decorations and men are somehow more dignified is serious.

So what's my point?

Treat 'em all like meat! If we can't achieve equality through sensitivity and all that stuff, at least we can all lower ourselves to the same level. If men can stare at tight skirts, women can whistle at muscle shirts. And if men feel threatened by seeing pinups of outstanding examples of their gender tacked up to be drooled over—welcome to the club.

By the way, Adidas is selling posters of their Canadian soccer team advertisement. Move over, Aikman, here comes something leaner!

SUMMER FUN WORKSHOPS

Register NOW! Call 845-1631 MSC Basement

SPECIAL INTEREST

Bike Repair

Tues. July 6 - July 27
7:30-9:30pm
\$20/student \$25/nonstudent

Star Gazing

T/Th. July 6 - July 29
7:30-10:30pm
\$35/student \$40/nonstudent

Beg. B&W Darkroom

Tues. July 20, 27, Aug 3
7-10pm
\$25/student \$30/nonstudent

Billiards

Sat. July 10 - Aug 7
11am - 1pm
\$30/student \$35/nonstudent

International Wines

Wed. July 7, 14, 21, 28
7-8:30pm
\$25/student \$30/nonstudent

Sign Language II

T/Th. July 13 - Aug 5
6-8pm
\$35/student \$40/nonstudent

Voice Training

Tues. July 13, 20, 27, Aug 3
6:30-8:30pm
\$22/student \$27/nonstudent

CPR

M/W. July 12 & July 14
6-10pm
\$18/student \$23/nonstudent



ARTS & CRAFTS

Jewelry Casting

Sat. & Sun. July 24 & July 25
9am-12 & 1pm-4pm each day
\$40/student \$45/nonstudent

Woodworking II

Sun. July 11, 18, 25, Aug 1
6-8pm
\$30/student \$35/nonstudent

Etched Glass

Wed. July 14
6-9pm
\$12/student \$17/nonstudent

Stained Glass

Tues. July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 3
6-9pm
\$30/student \$35/nonstudent

Matting & Framing

Thurs. July 8, 15, 22
2-4pm
\$25/student \$30/nonstudent

ARTS & CRAFTS

Pottery

Thurs. July 8, 15, 22, 29, Aug 5
2-4:30pm
\$30/student \$35/nonstudent

Painting II

M/W. July 19, 21, 26, 28, Aug 2, 4
5-7pm
\$30/student \$35/nonstudent

Painting II

M/W. July 19, 21, 26, 28, Aug 2, 4
7:30-9:30pm
\$30/student \$35/nonstudent

Painting II

Thurs. July 15, 22, 29, Aug 5
6-9pm
\$25/student \$30/nonstudent

Drawing II

Tues. July 13, 20, 27, Aug 3
6-8pm
\$20/student \$25/nonstudent

BUSINESS

Public Speaking

Mon. July 12, 19, 26
6-8pm
\$12/student \$17/nonstudent

Basics of Investing

Tues. July 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 3
7:30-9pm
\$15/student \$20/nonstudent

Student Financial Aid and Banking

Mon. July 12, 19, 26, Aug 2
7-9pm
No fee required - Registration only

COMPUTER WORKSHOPS

Intro to DOS / IBM PC

T/Th. July 6, 8, 13
7-9pm
\$20/students only

WordPerfect 5.1

T/Th. July 20 - Aug 5
7-9pm
\$50/students only

Pagemaker 4.0

M/W. Sat. July 10, 17, 24, 31
10am-12noon
\$25/student \$30/nonstudent

VIP RESEARCH

PANIC

Do you experience brief, unexpected periods of intense fear or discomfort?

Have you visited your doctor or the hospital emergency room because of chest pains, shortness of breath, numbness or tingling sensations and find out that you have no physical problems?

These occurrences may have been panic attacks.

VIP Research is conducting a study on Panic Disorder. Individuals with symptoms of panic attacks are being recruited to participate in a three month study of an investigational medication for the treatment of panic disorder. If you would like more information, call VIP Research. \$200.00 will be paid to those individuals who qualify and complete the study.

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- Lower Back Pain
- Frequent Urination
- Painful Urination
- Fever

VIP Research is seeking individuals 12 years of age or older with complicated urinary tract infections. If you have a urinary tract infection, you may qualify for an eight week research study using a currently available antibiotic medication. Participants who qualify and complete the study will be paid \$200.

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