

Burton-Durham, Weaver net aces

By Drew Diener

Senior tennis players Mark Weaver and Janine Burton-Durham begin their final seasons at Texas A&M aiming for national prominence.

Both Weaver and Burton-Durham have qualified for the National Intercollegiate Clay Court championships to be held at River Hills Tennis Club next week. The tournament is the first leg on the collegiate grand slam tour.

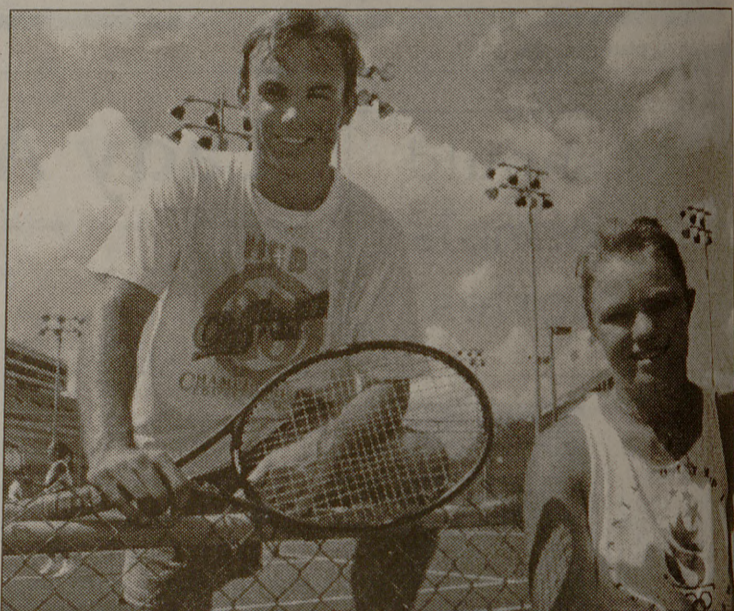
Weaver, the defending Southwest Conference singles champion, hopes to not only defend his crown this season but to capture the NCAA singles championship.

"I'd like to be one of the top contenders for the national title," Weaver said. "I don't think that is far-fetched."

Men's tennis coach David Kent said Weaver has worked hard for his on and off court achievements and he deserves the praise and notoriety he has received.

"He's improved tremendously and he's a very coachable kid," Kent said. "He loves to work and he puts in the hours on the tennis court."

"Tennis is a game of perspira-



Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALION

A&M senior tennis players Mark Weaver and Janine Burton-Durham are hoping to peer at greatness during the 1993-94 season.

tion and not inspiration."

Weaver's female contemporary, Burton-Durham, has set her sights on All-American status and a SWC championship this season.

A native South African, Burton-Durham's aims for the future

have helped her deal with being so far away from home.

"You kept so busy here, you don't have much time to think about it (homesickness)," Burton-Durham said. "If you let yourself think about it, it gets very lonely."

Rush

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that game, the spirit of ole non-animalia aided the Hurricanes' victory over the Aggies 35-34.

Next, it was the FLORIDA STATE SEMINOLES in the Cotton Bowl of the same season. (Remember, humans are not animals in this inebriated scenario). The loss to the Seminoles was a narrow one, but the same non-animalian spirit god made Greg Hill fumble five times in the 10-2 loss.

The next season saw the glorious and perfect 12-0 regular season that the Aggies completed a year ago. Then...the Cotton Bowl was upon us once again. Enter the FIGHTING IRISH OF NOTRE DAME.

The result, unlike the rest of the season, was of course not perfect.

Okay, so who really cares about this non-animalian streak anyway?

Well, be reminded of the only defeat A&M has suffered so far this year. Recall two weeks ago when A&M was humbled by the OKLAHOMA SOONERS 44-

14? That's right ladies and gentlemen, non-animalian.

All in all, that is four defeats in the past two and a quarter seasons. In those games, the Aggies have posted an anorexic 53 points, which averages to only 13.25 points per game.

To put that into perspective, the LSU Tigers, who were 2-9 last year, averaged 15.91 points per game.

Furthermore, the Aggies have averaged 34.65 points per game (797 points total in 23 games) against traditionally animal-named

teams. Some of these opponents include the Cardinals, Longhorns, Horned Frogs and of course the Cougars, Tigers and Bears (oh my!).

Maybe the reasoning in some of these arguments is slightly stretched, but it does raise some interesting questions about future scheduling for the football team.

Hopefully, A&M can play someone besides Miami (Hurricanes), Florida State, or Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl this year.

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Ryan's career ends in agony

The Associated Press

SEATTLE, Wash. — Nolan Ryan's 27-year baseball career ended Wednesday night when a doctor found a suspected torn ligament in the Texas Rangers pitcher's right elbow.

Ryan failed to retire a Seattle batter, walking four and allowing two hits, including a grand slam to Dann Howitt, and trailed 5-0 when relieved in the first inning. He threw 28 pitches.

When he came out, Ryan asked to be examined by a doctor, ac-

ording to Rangers traveling secretary Dan Schimek. Mariners team physician Dr. Larry Pedegana said he suspected Ryan has a torn ulnar collateral ligament in his right elbow.

Schimek said that if the diagnosis is correct, Ryan won't be able to pitch again this season, which he has said is his last.

For only the third time in his career, Ryan failed to retire a batter.

A crowd of about 50,000 gave Ryan a standing ovation when he started the game.

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