

Aggie spring sports—There's no I in team.

SHELLY HALL

SPORTSWRITER
THE BATTALION



For the next six weeks, Aggie sports fans can expect a different approach to sports than they found in the fall and early spring. With the exception of baseball and softball, individual efforts to bring victory to "the team" have passed with the closing of the football season last fall and the finale of the men's and women's basketball teams before spring break.

So, does the 12th Man get to take a rest for the remainder of the year? The answer to that question lies with the individuals who are working hard to improve their golf swing, decrease their times on the track or perfect their backhand in tennis.

The sports that are often overlooked but provide the fiercest competition between two individuals battling for victory are the "individual" sports.

Individual sports are not likely to draw 50,000 sports fans, students and alumni alike, or 50 for that matter.

But the 12th Man spirit is kept alive as Aggie athletes involved in individual sports dedicate hours of their time to compete against other individuals who are jockeying to be the number one performer.

These athletes, while working toward team victories, rely solely on themselves to bring home the championship.

No more Kyle Kessel assisting

See Hall, Page 8

Lady Aggies to begin NWIT versus ETSU

□ The top-seeded women's basketball team uses NCAA snub to fire up for the tourney.

By Robert Rodriguez
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M women's basketball team will get their taste of March Madness tonight when they play in the National Women's Invitational Tournament.

The top-seeded Lady Aggies will face eighth-seeded East Tennessee State at 8 p.m. at the Amarillo Civic Center.

This will be the second consecutive post-season appearance for the Lady Aggies and for coach Candi Harvey. The Lady Aggies advanced to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament last year and Harvey led Tulane to a fourth-place finish in last year's NWIT.

Harvey said the Lady Buccaneers are a dangerous and explosive team.

"They are very quick and their inside game is similar to Texas Tech," Harvey said. "They are a good basketball team and I was impressed by them. They will be a tough opponent," she said.

Junior point guard Lisa Branch compared the Lady Buccaneers to another Southwest Conference foe which gave the Lady Aggies some trouble.

"They are a lot like Houston," Branch said. "They like to run and they like to push the ball."

East Tennessee State finished their regular season with a 20-7 record. The Lady Buccaneers were runners-up in the Southern Conference tournament and like the Lady Aggies, were bypassed by the NCAA Women's Tournament Selection Committee.

Even though the Lady Aggies still believe they should have been in the NCAA Women's Tournament, guard Lana Tucker said the Lady Aggies will prove something to the committee in the NWIT.

"Being snubbed by the selection committee made us angry and we are going to channel this onto the court," Tucker said. "We are going to prove in the NWIT that we belong in the NCAA tournament and carry that attitude into next year in order to not let the Baysors and SMUs beat us."

Harvey said the key for A&M to beat

See Lady Ags, Page 8

Women's tennis loses to tough Sooner team

Staff and Wire Reports

The 31st-ranked Oklahoma women's tennis team routed their A&M counterparts Wednesday at the Omar Smith Tennis Center 8-1.

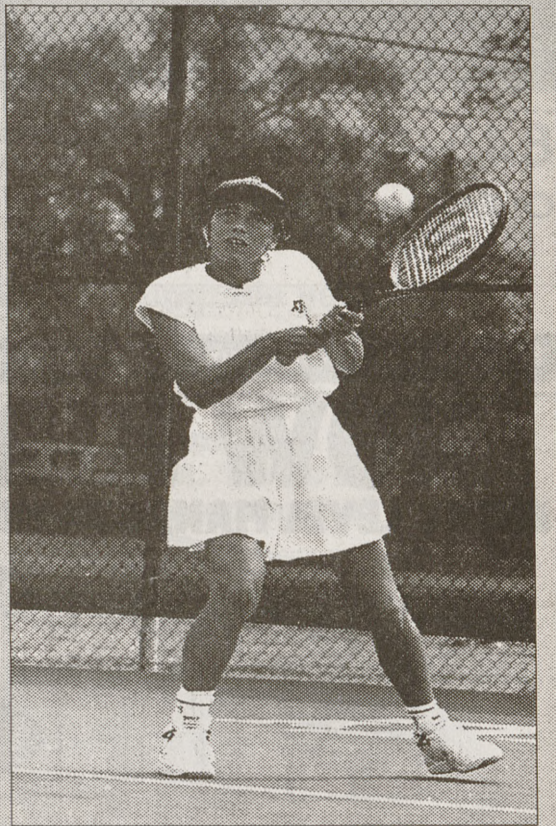
Texas A&M's doubles team of Lonna Logan and Anna Strakosova tallied a three-set victory for A&M's only win.

"We just didn't come out ready to play today, and it shows in the scores," Lady Aggie coach Bobby Kleinecke said. "We didn't have a good effort. I'm disappointed and the team is disappointed in the way we played."

The Lady Aggies fall to 5-8 overall while Oklahoma improves to 12-2 on the season.

"This match can be a turning point for us. We see what we're doing wrong, and now it's a matter of correcting it," Kleinecke said.

The Lady Aggies return to action this weekend with a road swing through Florida. A&M takes on South Florida in Tampa on March 24 and Florida State in Tallahassee on March 26.



Bart Mitchell/THE BATTALION

Senior community health major Cristin DiNardo volleys with the Sooners.

Swimmers, divers to compete at NCAA's

Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M men's swimming and diving team will have four participants at the 1995 NCAA Division I Men's Swimming and Diving Championships hosted by Indiana University-Purdue University this weekend.

Sophomore Robb Pantano is the only Aggie that has national championship experience. At last year's championship Pantano finished 12th and 14th in the 200-meter and 400 medley relay units. Pantano will compete in the 100 and 200-meter backstroke.

Senior Scott DeWolf will compete in the 200-meter butterfly where he holds the fastest A&M time this season. Freshman Kyle Marden qualified for both the 100-meter and 200 breaststroke

where he owns the A&M record in the 100-breaststroke.

The diving team will be sending its first ever diver, freshman Jarrod Flores. Flores qualified for the championship by finishing third at the Zone D NCAA Diving Championships on March 10.

"Jarrod's well-prepared, and we're not going to hold back," diving coach Kevin Wright said. "We're going to go all-out, and when the smoke clears, we'll see how we do. Nationals are just another meet, and we'll approach it from that perspective."

Flores has had a standout freshman season. He finished the conference dual meet season undefeated on the one-meter and placed third at the Southwest Conference Championships.

This meet will conclude the 1994-1995 regular season.

Move over Dick Vitale....

The Batt's road to the Final Four

REGIONAL BRACKET	Midwest Region	Southeast Region	East Region	West Region	National Champs	Why???
David Winder	Virginia	N. Carolina	Wake Forest	Maryland	Maryland	Naming first child Exree Winder.
Nick Georgandis	Arkansas	Kentucky	UMass	UCLA	UCLA	Can't spell chalupa without UCLA!
Kristina Buffin	Kansas	N. Carolina	Wake Forest	UCLA	UCLA	Can't mess with a guy named Tyus.
Tom Day	Arkansas	N. Carolina	Wake Forest	UCLA	Wake Forest	Have two pet Demon Deacons at home.
Shelly Hall	Kansas	Kentucky	Wake Forest	UCLA	UCLA	Oh me, oh my, O'Bannon!
Robert Rodriguez	Kansas	N. Carolina	Wake Forest	Maryland	Maryland	Naming first child Joe Rodriguez.
Jim Anderson	Kansas	N. Carolina	UMass	Connecticut	N. Carolina	Once dunked on by Jerry Stackhouse.
Mark Smith	Kansas	N. Carolina	UMass	UCLA	UCLA	I love the Bruins. Hockey is the best.
Rob Clark	Kansas	N. Carolina	UMass	Maryland	N. Carolina	Heard MJ was coming all the way back.
Stew Milne	Arkansas	Georgetown	UMass	UCLA	UMass	As Sonny said to Cher: I've got UMass.
Guest: Tony McGinnis	Arkansas	Kentucky	Wake Forest	UCLA	Arkansas	Read about that Corliss Force in Physics.

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