

SPORTS

Atlanta Roadblock

Four A&M Olympic hopefuls fall on hard times at Trials

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sports GLANCE

Fenimore named to All-American team

Texas A&M senior Dru Fenimore capped off his collegiate career by being named to the All-American team.

An honorable mention entry on the squad, Fenimore led the Aggies with a 74.2 stroke average and finished with five tournament top 10 finishes in 1996.

"I'm really proud that Dru made All-American as a senior," A&M Head Coach Bob Ellis said. "He's meant a lot to our team, not just as a player, but as a leader as well."

Stanford sophomore Tiger Woods received the Jack Nicklaus Trophy as the nation's top Division I golfer.



FENIMORE

Aggies rank eighth in attendance in '96

The Texas A&M Baseball Team may not have made it to the College World Series this year, but the Aggies still had the support of their fans.

A&M ranked eighth in the nation with an average home attendance of 2,217 in 1996.

National champion Louisiana State University ranked 1st with an average of 5,816, and the University of Texas finished 2nd with 4,703 fans per contest.

The Southeastern Conference drew the largest attendance in 1996, with a total of 662,508 fans passing through the turnstiles in 373 home dates.

Broadcasting great Allen died yesterday

GREENWICH, Conn. (AP) — Mel Allen, one of the great voices of baseball broadcasting, died Sunday at home. He was 82.

A family member, who asked not to be identified, confirmed the death, adding Allen had been ill for some time with an undisclosed condition.

"Mel Allen meant as much to Yankee tradition as legends like Ruth, Gehrig, DiMaggio and Mantle," team owner George Steinbrenner said. "He was the voice of the Yankees."

In his 58 years as a sports broadcaster, Allen did it all, from baseball's World Series and All-Star game, to college football and boxing.

He was best known, however, for applying his Alabama drawl to Yankees broadcasts and, for 17 years, as the voice of the weekly syndicated show, "This Week in Baseball."

Funeral plans were not disclosed.

Holmes calls it quits after 23 years

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss. (AP) — Larry Holmes, a 46-year-old grandfather and one of boxing's great champions, ended his 23-year career Sunday with an eighth-round knockout of Anthony Willis in his 70th and final pro fight.

At the insistence of his family, Holmes is retiring, insisting this is indeed his last fight. So he chose a Father's Day bout at Casino Magic, where he fought eight times since 1993.

After toying with his opponent for more than seven rounds, the former heavyweight champion delivered a definitive right hand to Willis' temple 1:13 into the eighth round of the scheduled 10-rounder.

It was the 42nd career knockout for Holmes, who ended his career with a 65-5 record. All the losses were in championship bouts.

Nineteen fights and another retirement later, Holmes stepped out of the ring for the last time Sunday.

And this time, he says, he won't be coming back.

SCORES ROUNDUP

AL
Boston 10, Texas 9
Minnesota 4, Detroit 1
New York 5, Cleveland 4
Oakland 10, Milwaukee 9
Toronto 6, California 4
Seattle 7, Chicago 6
Baltimore 13, Kansas City 5

NL
San Francisco 8, Houston 7
Florida 4, Pittsburgh 2
Los Angeles 3, Atlanta 2
Cincinnati 7, Montreal 0
St. Louis 5, New York 4
Chicago 8, San Diego 4
Colorado 11, Philadelphia 3



Staff and Wire Reports

Four A&M Track and Field athletes found out over the weekend just how difficult achieving Olympic glory can be.

With the Olympic Trials getting underway last Friday in Atlanta, Aggie standouts Rosa Jolivet, Danny McCray, Ricky Pfister and Kendrick Smith travelled to Georgia to test their mettle against the nation's top competitors.

After three days, the results were a mixed bag for the A&M Olympic hopefuls. Although two Aggies advanced to second-round action, that is as far as they got.

Jolivet, who in 1996 became only the second female Southwest Conference track athlete to ever win the title in both the 100- and 400-meter hurdles events, was the first Aggie participant to taste success.

The senior placed second in her 400 hurdle heat on Friday with a time of 58.54 seconds to advance to Saturday's semifinal round. But despite running a personal-best time of 55.91 in the semifinal — a third-place finish kept Jolivet from moving to the finals and a shot at an Olympic berth.

However, the highly-heralded Aggie track star will have another shot at the Olympics this Friday when she competes in the 100 hurdle event.

A&M wide receiver/track runner Danny McCray came up big in the first round of the 400-meter dash Saturday. Posting a time of 45.75 seconds, the junior finished fourth in his heat to qualify for the quarterfinal races on Sunday.

Unfortunately, McCray's dreams were

crushed when he was unable to finish his quarterfinal race.

Pfister, who set a school freshman record in the 400 hurdle event in 1996, did not fare as well in the event in Atlanta. A&M's highly-touted newcomer failed to make it past the first round Friday, finishing in seventh place in the first heat of four with a time of 51.51.

Smith experienced the same hard luck in the triple jump later that day. The graduating senior posted an impressive distance of 49-feet, 5-inches, yet failed to get past the qualifying round.

Two more Aggies will head to Atlanta this weekend in an attempt to overcome the A&M jinx and qualify for the Games beginning July 19th. Senior Anjanette Kirkland will join Jolivet in the 100 hurdle event Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Kirkland, who redshirted in 1996 due to leg injury, owns the top time in A&M history with a finish of 12.89 seconds in 1995.

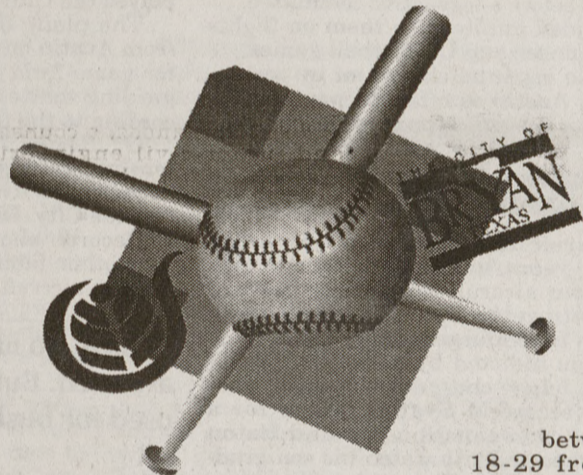
A&M freshman Michael Price also heads to Atlanta to compete in the 200-meter dash starting Friday at 8 p.m. Price posted the nation's best time by a freshman in the 200 in 1996 with a 20.35 second finish.

A&M Athletes at Olympic Trials

- Rosa Jolivet** — 400 hurdles
1st Round: 58.54, 2nd place, Heat 1
Semifinal: 55.91, 3rd place, Heat 1
- Danny McCray** — 200 meters
1st Round: 45.75, 4th place, Heat 4
- Ricky Pfister** — 400 hurdles
1st Round: 51.51, 7th place, Heat 1
- Kendrick Smith** — triple jump
Qualifying Round: 49-feet, 5-inches, 12th place, Group A

Boys of Summer

The Aggieland Baseball League provides an opportunity to participate in America's favorite pastime



By Ray Hernandez
THE BATTALION

The majority of them do not look like collegiate ballplayers. They do not exactly perform like collegiate players, either. But then again, none of them have scholarships.

Those desperate for a local baseball fix other than little league action, do not think your options faded away for the summer with the conclusion of the Aggie Baseball Team's season. There is another outlet for college-level baseball — the Aggieland Baseball League.

The adult league in the

Bryan - College Station area features players between the ages of 18-29 from all over the Brazos Valley.

The league plays a 153-game schedule that begins in June and continues throughout the summer. The season includes an All-Star game at mid-season, and a playoff tournament to determine the league champion in August.

Established in 1993 with only four teams, the city league opened up play this summer with nine teams and plans to further expand in the near future.

Greg Jasper, vice president of the league and a recent Texas A&M graduate, said the league's ability to grow is limited to the available facilities.

"We know we have the po-

tential of going to a 15-to-18 team league, and that goal can be accomplished with a better field complex," Jasper said. "The (city) softball program has been very successful because of their facilities."

The league is actively investing in its future. It collects an average of \$1000 per team for dues, and roughly \$1500 of the total dues collected goes into savings for fields and facilities.

"I know we can get this done," Jasper said. "We are saving money and talking to sponsors for extra revenue. All we need are the cities of Bryan and College Station to help out."

Currently, league teams play their games at either the Allen Academy baseball diamond in

Bryan or Old Tiger Field, located at Anderson Street and George Bush Drive in College Station.

While officials are focusing on giving the league a solid financial foundation, the love of playing baseball remains the primary motivation for so many players coming out every season.

"Like most of the guys, I just love playing baseball — it's the whole reason for playing,"

Bryan Martin, a senior civil engineering major and second-year third baseman, said. "Some play to keep fit or to stay in form; the rest of us are out there for fun. It's something to look forward to every week."

Every team has a different method of putting its squad together. Some only bring in a group of guys and sign them,

while others have extensive try-outs and even a mini-spring training.

Jasper, who is also a player-manager in the league, said his team got off to an early start to try to get ahead of the competition.

"We got back from spring break and immediately started our workouts then," said Jasper. "We just wanted to get a head start on everyone else."

While the league is based in B-CS, it has pulled in talent from surrounding towns, including Hearne and Caldwell. Most of the players are either A&M or Blinn students, and the rest — primarily players who are on summer vacation from other institutions — come from surrounding areas.

As the league continues to grow in its successes and failures, the future of the league only seems to show promise for adult baseball in the B-CS area in years to come.

"Like most of the guys, I just love playing baseball."

— BRYAN MARTIN
senior civil engineering major

Bulls

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I'm the most positive-thinking guy you'll ever see. I thought we could win 70 games. I knew there was a lot of work to be done. I was blessed to be healthy throughout the entire season and to get the game ball on the championship day."

Artistically, Sunday's 87-75 victory in Game 6 wasn't one of Jordan's better games; he shot only 5-for-19 from the floor and committed five turnovers. Rodman, who finished a superb series with a high-energy, 19-rebound performance, and Seattle's Shawn Kemp also would have been worthy MVP choices.

But Jordan did have 22 points, nine rebounds and seven assists. And his famous will to win made a major impact on the Bulls, who played with an intensity and aggressiveness that had been seen rarely — if ever — during this record-setting season.

Jordan, who also won most valuable player awards for the 1991, 1992 and 1993 finals, completed an MVP hat trick in his first full season since coming out of retirement 16 months ago.

Jordan quit after the third championship — and after the death of his father — because he felt he had accomplished everything possible. His retirement included a stint as a minor-league baseball player. He returned to the Bulls in March 1995, saying he learned how much he missed basketball.

But Jordan only occasionally flashed the form that made him one of the best players ever. After

the Bulls lost to Orlando in the second round of the playoffs, Jordan blamed himself and promised it wouldn't happen again.

"I never doubted that I could get back to this moment," Jordan said. "But some days were harder than others. I'm happy I'm back, to bring a championship back to the city of Chicago."

He can become a free agent and has said he will ask for \$36 million over two years; his agent, David Falk, called that figure low. Rodman and Bulls coach Phil Jackson also can entertain offers from other teams.

"I'm very positive," Jordan said. "I believe we will be back. I say we. That means Phil and Dennis, too."

In addition to his MVP triple play, Jordan's season also included first-team All-Star and all-defensive honors.

In the finals MVP balloting, he received six votes from the 11-member media panel. Kemp got three, Rodman the other two. He and Magic Johnson of the Los Angeles Lakers had been the only players with three finals MVPs.

Jordan led Chicago in scoring in 17 of its 18 playoff games, averaging 30.7 points. In the decisive fourth game of the Eastern Conference finals against Orlando, Jordan scored 45 points on a day in which his teammates struggled.

In Game 6, Jordan had six points as the Bulls used a 19-6 third-quarter run to take a 64-47 lead. He finished the spurt with a reverse layup on a pass from Rodman, who dominated the run with his rebounding and defense.

Jordan is the league's all-time leader in post-season scoring average, 33.9 points. He also is the top regular-season scorer ever, 32 points per game.



Jones conquers 'The Monster'

Lehman tied Davis Love III for second place at the U.S. Open

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Mich. (AP) — The strategy for slaying the course called "The Monster" in the U.S. Open calls for building a lead through the first 13 holes and then hanging on for dear life.

That's what Steve Jones did Sunday.

He stumbled, as did Tom Lehman. The difference was Jones had a one-stroke lead when he walked to the 14th tee box — and a one-stroke victory when he thrust his arms in the air on the 18th green.

"I think every young boy that has played golf has dreamed of making a putt on the last hole to win," Jones said. "Fortunately, mine was about one foot long, and if it was one inch longer, I'm not sure where I would have gone."

The final five holes at Oakland Hills Country Club are the teeth in The Monster.

Jones' journey through was anything but a Sunday stroll. After hitting fairways and greens much of the day, he drove into the clumpy rough at No. 14, usually a sure ticket to

bogey at a U.S. Open. He punched out short of the green, then chipped up close enough to save par.

"That was definitely a big save," Jones said. "I had a really hard shot there and chipped it up there about a foot."

Jones nearly holed a delicate 50-footer from the fringe at No. 15, then he finally hit a hurdle on the 17th, hitting in the rough to the right and missing a 12-footer for par.

That put him in a tie at 2-under with Lehman, who had played the final stretch in even par. The 18th caught up with him, though.

Lehman boomed a driver that ran through the fairway and into a steep bunker, leaving him no shot at the green. His sand wedge on his third shot wouldn't spin back, and he missed a 20-footer that would have preserved his share of the lead.

"It got down to the last hole," Lehman said. "It was basically match play. I felt if I could put the fall in the fairway, the advantage is to me."