

SPORTS BRIEFS

Red Wings player emerging from coma

ROYAL OAK, Mich. (AP) — Detroit Red Wings star Vladimir Konstantinov and the team masseur of the Stanley Cup champions are coming out of their comas, but will still need months of rehabilitation, doctors said Sunday. Konstantinov and Sergei Mnatsakanov have been upgraded to serious condition. They had been listed in critical condition since June 13 — 30 days after the Red Wings won their first Stanley Cup in 42 years — when the limousine they were in crashed into a tree.

"It would be appropriate to say they are emerging from comas," said James Robbins, a trauma surgeon at William Beaumont Hospital.

McGann finishes first in Shoprite Classic

SOMERS POINT, N.J. (AP) — Michelle McGann closed with a near-perfect 64 on Sunday to sprint past hot Annika Sorenstam and win the Shoprite PGA Classic by three strokes over the two-time defending U.S. Open champion.

McGann finished at 12-under-par 211, breaking the tournament record last year by Dottie Pepper by one stroke. Sorenstam, in the top three for the ninth time in 13 tournaments this year, was at 204. Julie Inkster was third at 206.

The victory was McGann's second of the year and the seventh career win for the 27-year-old who is sure to be one of Sorenstam's main obstacles when she tries to win an unprecedented third consecutive U.S. Women's Open in two weeks.

U.S. ties El Salvador 1-1 in qualifying game

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — In a game in which the U.S. State Department warned of possible fan violence, the United States tied El Salvador 1-1 Sunday in a qualifying game for next year's World Cup. Roy Lassiter scored six minutes into the second half, but Raul Diaz tied the score 10 minutes later. Lassiter, a substitute who replaced David Wagner at forward, put the Americans ahead after John Harkes sent a pass through the defenders.

SPORTSLINE

AMERICAN LEAGUE		
Atlanta.....7	Yankees.....11	
Baltimore.....5	Cleveland.....10	
Chicago.....3	White Sox.....6	
Detroit.....2	Minnesota.....4	
Kansas City.....3	Seattle.....3	
Texas.....2	Anaheim.....2	
NATIONAL LEAGUE		
Atlanta.....6	San Francisco.....7	
Philadelphia.....5	Colorado.....4	
Pittsburgh.....10	Los Angeles.....10	
St. Louis.....8	San Diego.....4	
Houston.....10	Florida.....5	
Cubs.....8	Montreal.....3	
WNBA		
New York.....65	Houston.....76	
Phoenix.....57	Utah.....58	
Charlotte.....67	Phoenix.....68	
Cleveland.....44	Cleveland.....63	

Earning her place in history
Lynn Hickey has watched women's athletics evolve at A&M

By KRISTINA BUFFIN
THE BATTALION

Senior Associate Athletic Director Lynn Hickey is an extremely busy woman, but not as busy as she used to be when she had to hold down two demanding jobs. When Hickey came to A&M 13 years ago, she served in a dual capacity. She was the women's head basketball coach and the top women's administrator. But in 1991, she was

Part two in a series

faced with a tough decision — continue to coach the sport she loves or take a promotion within the administrative ranks.

"Mr. Groff asked me to pick," Hickey said. "It was a hard decision, but my choice was the more practical one. I love women's basketball, but this was a good career direction."

The Lady Aggies had just advanced to the Sweet Sixteen the season before, but Hickey decided she would step aside and contribute to A&M women's athletics as a whole. It seems as if she made the right decision.

While the Lady Ags had a tough season this year, the team won the last Southwest Conference Championship in 1996 and steadily is climbing the ladder of success.

"Quitting coaching was kind of like having a death in the family," Hickey said. "But I realized that when I was 50 or 55 years old, I didn't want to be running from gym to gym."

With the beginning of the WNBA and the fast-pitch softball league this summer, women are continuing to make strides in developing and competing in professional versions of their sports. Hickey has been lucky enough to witness the changes from the beginning.

"People want to see women's sports do well. The key is not to get complacent and keep increasing opportunities for women."

Lynn Hickey
Senior associate athletic director

A&M began its women's athletic program in 1975 as Hickey was earning All-American honors at Ouachita Baptist University and Title IX was coming into effect.

Hickey says that while women's sports have made great strides, there is still more to be done. "We are definitely not where we want to be," Hickey said. "But the last 20 or so years we have made tremendous progress. I am excited to be a part of it, a part of history."

The primary reason Hickey decided to concentrate on the administrative side was to help continue the advancement of women's athletics.

"Over the last five or six years I have seen more equity," Hickey said. "People want to see women's sports to do well. The key is not to get complacent and keep increasing opportunities for women."

"Our challenge is to strive to get better crowds, win games and make sure women get every opportunity they deserve." There is a distinct difference between

women's and men's sports. For example, in basketball, there is the difference in size, power and shot selection. But Hickey said there is one advantage women's athletics hold over men's — access.

"Women's sports are still more personable," Hickey said. "It is fan- and family-friendly. It is more one-on-one."

While Hickey concentrates primarily on women's athletics, she is concerned about all programs at A&M.

"The bottom line is that we have to continue to have winning programs," she said. "We want to finish in the top 15 in the Sear's Cup (A&M finished 30th this year) and have all our teams in the top three in the Big 12."

"We also want to give to the community, especially to the kids. We are a bridge to Bryan-College Station, and no matter what I think, that would be a great mark to leave."

Hickey's husband Bill is an assistant coach for the Aggie baseball team, and Hickey said he has been extremely supportive of every decision she has made. The two have a daughter, Lauren, who is nine.

Hickey says while it is easier to have a spouse with the same type of career because they are both always busy, it is hard to find time with Lauren. However, Hickey said Lauren is perhaps the luckiest child because she is afforded several opportunities that many children are not.

"We are always bouncing from one event to another," Hickey said. "But she gets to attend a lot of sporting events and meet a lot of great people."

As women continue to make strides in the sporting arena, Hickey will continue to be a part of history. Hopefully, by the time Lauren is grown, she too will witness a little part of history.



PHOTOGRAPH: Derek Demere
Senior Associate Athletic Director **Lynn Hickey** has worked with A&M athletics for 13 years.

Wimbledon continues to be wild Grand Slam

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — The flag-waving, foot-stomping rabble took over Centre Court from the blue-blazer swells on People's Sunday II at Wimbledon and turned the joint into a soccer-style circus for beloved Brit Tim Henman.

The fans' full-throated roars and chants carried Henman from the brink of defeat to a rousing four-hour, 6-7 (9-7), 6-3, 6-2, 4-6, 14-12 triumph over Paul Haarhuis that will go down as one of the most dramatic in Wimbledon history, even if only put Henman into the fourth round against defending champion Richard Krajicek.

It was a match that defined a rare day at Wimbledon and overshadowed the ouster of six women seeds, including the only former champion in the draw, Conchita Martinez, and Olympic gold medalist Lindsay Davenport.

The rain that wrecked the opening-week schedule gave way to a weekend of chilly but dry weather that allowed the tournament to catch up on most of the postponed matches with play on the middle Sunday for only the second time. Like People's Sunday in 1991, Centre Court was filled with thousands of fans who queued up through the night to get seats that usually go

only to the privileged.

"From the word go, it was something I'd never experienced before," Henman said of the wildly screaming fans. "The noise was just a totally different level. I always have great support here, but in the situation of a middle Sunday that crowd played a huge part in the match. ... It gives you an amazing sort of buzz."

Though No. 1 Martina Hingis virtually proclaimed the end of the Steffi Graf era after moving easily into the fourth round, and fellow 16-year-old Anna Kournikova won cheers by knocking off No. 7 Anke Huber 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, the No. 2 Seles received the loudest applause among the women.

A huge standing ovation brought a welcome smile to Seles' face when she beat Kristina Brandi 5-7, 6-3, 6-3 in a match that had been suspended because of darkness Saturday with Seles up 3-1 in the second set.

"The crowd was very spontaneous today," Seles said. "What was amazing to me is how dedicated some of the fans are to be sleeping outside (for tickets). I think they just love tennis, and at very few places do you see that."



A&M's top 10 sporting moments

As summer continues, many Aggies have time to reminisce about great moments of the past. The great football victories, the basketball triumphs and those late-inning heroics at C. E. Pat Olsen Field.

Since many at A&M cannot recall much before the 1980s, this top 10 list of Aggie sports moments will be limited to the 1980 season through the present. This certainly is not to diminish any of the earlier ventures of the Aggies sports teams, but rather to give the past 17 years their just due.

10. The list begins at Kyle Field. The year was 1986, and commander Cody Carlson leads the Baylor Bears into town for the annual Southwest Conference showdown. The Aggies are led by the strong passing of Kevin Murray and come back from a 17-0 deficit to get the 31-30 win over Baylor, the only team many believed could challenge A&M in the SWC that year.

9. The Aggie Basketball team enters the 1987 SWC tournament in Dallas as the last seed and is facing certain first-round elimination. The Aggies surprise everyone, winning the tournament and going on to give Duke all they could handle in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

8. In 1985, the Aggies defeat the 18th-ranked Longhorns 42-10 at Kyle Field to clinch their first



TRAVIS DABNEY
Sportswriter,
Senior History
major

Aggies face the Notre Dame Fighting Irish in the 1988 Cotton Bowl. The Aggies shut down the Irish and hometown favorite Tim Brown, the 1988 Heisman Trophy winner, 35-10, to solidify themselves as a national power.

3. Here is one that gets little attention, but is still A&M's top basketball moment in recent history. The 1980 Aggie basketball team advances all the way to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament. In the process, they defeat North Carolina before losing to eventual national champion Louisville Cardinals in overtime.

2. This is a moment that will live on in many Aggie baseball fans' minds forever. John Byington's heroic performance in the 1989 Texas series, in which he hit two game-winning home runs in one day, could be placed right at the top of any series performance ever in SWC baseball history.

1. The 1984 football season saw the Aggies struggle for much of the first half of the season. But as the second half started, the Aggies gained huge victories against TCU and UT and set themselves up for what would be 10 years of domination of SWC football and all that Aggie football is today.

As the Athletic Department moves toward the 21st century, they can only hope the next 20 years will be as successful as the last 20.

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