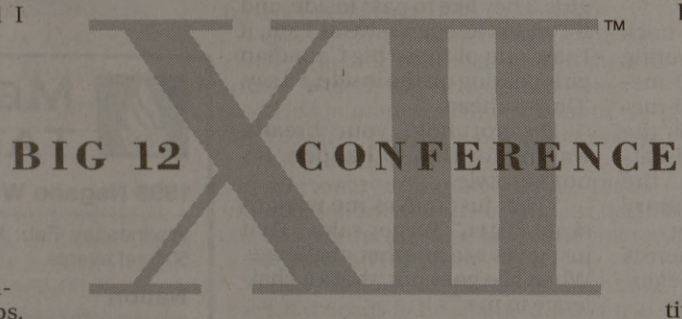


IT'S NOW OR NEVER

The Texas A&M Women's Swimming and Diving Teams travel to Austin this weekend to face the best of the Big 12

By PHILIP W. PETER
Staff writer

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday the Texas A&M Women's Swimming and Diving Teams will be in Austin competing in the second Big 12 Conference Championship. Although their two losses this season were to conference rivals Texas and Nebraska, Coach Don Wagner said he is confident the team is focused on its goals. "Last year we were fourth with 11 people in the finals," Wagner said. "My projection this year is to have many as 32 finalists. Texas was second and they beat us by 400 points. Nebraska beat us by 450 points and Kansas beat us by 40 points. Our sites are set to narrow that gap and I believe come Saturday night, you'll see what we have."



Wagner said that due to the work ethic of the athletes, he expects the team to show improvement in every swimmer from the past conference championships. "We have a lot more depth," Wagner said, "and I think everybody is looking at going for lifetime best swims this weekend. I think we've got a lot more direction from the kids we've brought in. They are very centered, they know what they want and every single swimmer has been willing to pay the price to move to the next level and improve themselves."

Sophomore Tracy Evans said she is excited about the opportunity to swim against Nebraska and Texas again in Austin.

"Every time we see Texas, we give it all we've got," Evans said. "I think they're beatable, but we're going to have to swim the best that we can. Nebraska has also got some good girls who are going to win a lot of events. I think it will be close. I expect our team to be 100 percent better than last year and hopefully I can defend my title as Big 12 Champion in the mile."

Evans is not the only swimmer excited about competing again against familiar foes. Sophomore Monica Stroman said she likes to swim at Texas.

"It's a neat atmosphere and it's a fast pool," Stroman said. "We're hoping to come back with a little more force. Each year so far that I have been here, we've come back and won more events and come closer (to winning). I don't know if this is the year that we'll actually get them or not, but we are definitely stronger than last year. I just hope to have my best time and keep a positive attitude the whole way and have fun."

According to Wagner, they are stronger due to the level of this year's competition.

"This year, we have gone against five of the top 10 teams in the country," Wagner said. "We haven't beaten them, but we know we can compete with them. Nebraska is ranked seventh in the country and Texas is 12. But they know we're coming and our girls know we're coming."

The meet begins Thursday at 11 a.m. and runs through Saturday at the Jamail Swim Center on the University of Texas campus.

AGGIE SPORTS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

G. Rollie special events planned

At the conclusion of the Texas A&M women's basketball game against Kansas State on Feb. 25 and the men's game against Baylor on Feb. 28, the lights will be turned off for the last time at the Rollie White Coliseum and several special activities have been planned for the conclusion of both games.

Fans can register to take part in the closing ceremonies by reading *The Eagle*, listening to area radio stations and attending season-end games.

Contest winners will have the chance to cut down the nets, begin a balloon pull, win an autographed game ball, "turn off the lights" and go on a trip to Kansas City, Mo., for the Big 12 Tournament.

For the women's game activities, fans should listen to radio stations KAW-AM, KAGG-FM (Aggie 96) and KEX-FM for registration details. For the men's, tune into KORA-FM, KSR-FM, KTAM-AM and KHLR-FM for information.

Those interested in winning the autographed game ball can register in *The Eagle*. Those attending the game will have the chance to register for several promotions prior to the game in the lobby.

All participants in the contests must be present at the games to win.

Women's tennis team downs Rice

The No. 38 Texas A&M Women's Tennis Team (7-0) defeated the No. 51 Rice Owls (6-2) 6-3 yesterday at the Jake Hess Tennis Stadium in Houston to remain undefeated on the season.

"This was just a great team win today," A&M Coach Bobby Kleinecke said. "Playing Rice is always a battle, but we just came down here ready to win. This is another regional win that will help our seeding when the NCAAs come around in May."

In the singles competition, the Aggies were led by Lisa Dingwall who defeated Rice's Elle Lewis 7-6, 6-1. Also, Monica Rebollo had a come-from-behind victory over Vessie Ivanova 6-7, 7-5, 6-1.

Kathryn Scott and Eva Marcial also posted wins in singles play.

In doubles competition, the Aggies defeated the Owls 2-1, led by Dingwall and Vanessa Rooks' 8-6 victory over Rice's Borwell and Ivanova. The team of Eva Marcial and Scott also defeated their opponents 8-5.

"I am very pleased with the fight we showed having to come back in all doubles matches," Kleinecke said. "Anything can happen in pro set play, and we kept fighting, giving ourselves a chance to win."

This victory puts the Aggies in great position for the NCAA Regionals held in May at LSU.

The Aggies will continue their regional play next Wednesday when they travel to Waco to begin Big 12 Conference play against the No. 36 Lady Bears at 1:30 p.m.



Kleinecke

Slocum rounds out football staff

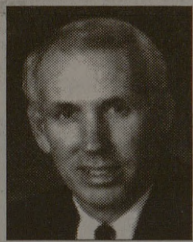
The Texas A&M Football Team added the final piece to its coaching staff yesterday when they hired former Washington State assistant Lawrence Livingston to be the new running backs coach. Livingston was the offensive line coach at WSU for the past three seasons.

"He's done a great job with the Washington State offense which ranked second in the country this past year and helped the Cougars to the Rose Bowl," Slocum said. "He's an impressive young coach who will do well here at Texas A&M."

Last year the Cougars won the Pac 10 and made their first trip to the Rose Bowl since 1931, finishing No. 9 in the country, the school's highest ranking ever.

Prior to Washington State, Livingston was the head offensive line coach at Weber State for six seasons under current Washington State head coach, Mike Price. Before that, he was the offensive line coach at the U.S. Military Academy and helped lead the Cadets to a 9-3 record and a Sun Bowl berth.

In 1993, one of his pupils, Paul Kogaika, earned first-team All-Big Sky honors, while in 1991, Bruce Covernton was named Division I-AA All-American. Livingston also helped develop a first-team all-conference running back each season from 1990-93.



Slocum

International Student Association Welcomes all aggies to the first International Career Fair

When? 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.,
18th and 19th February '98

Where? Rudder Exhibit Hall

Why? To explore opportunities to
work/intern/co-op in USA or
anywhere in the world

St. Mary's Respect Life Commission & Peace Lutheran Church invite you to hear the story of:

Norma McCorvey

Who was "Roe" in the "Roe vs. Wade" Case that legalized abortion in the United States.
Norma McCorvey is now a Christian and an encouraging member of the Pro-Life Movement
Friday, February 20, 1998
7:00 p.m. Rudder Theater

15th Annual Healthy Heart Run
benefiting the
American Heart Association
presented by the
A&M College of Medicine
10k, 5k, and 1 mile walk on
February 28 at 9 a.m.
Location: Reynolds Medical Building
Registration forms at Barnes & Noble,
Copy Korner or online at
hsc.tamu.edu/admis/funrun.html

UP ALL NIGHT

Come Join Us In Saving the Lives of Children
in the Brazos Valley!!!

February 20-21, 1998 • 6:00pm - Midnight
Duncan Dining Hall

FUN!!!

Benefiting

Free
Food!

Prizes!



Games!

Questions about getting involved????? Call 268-3140
We Need YOU to come Volunteer & help make MIRACLES HAPPEN!

msc variety show

applications
available now!

...this ain't your high school's talent show!

show off your talent at msc variety show held parent's weekend, april 17
applications now available in the msc student programs office
applications due February 27

for questions or more info call stacy at 845-1515

Presented by:



4.0 & GO

There's nothing else like them
in the universe. -Einstein

There's nothing else
like them in the
universe. -Spock

There's nothing else
like them at the
university. -Corps Terd

Question
of
the
Week

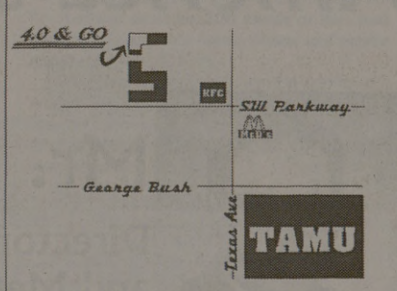
Question:
What is catgut
string made of?

(First 5 to call with answer
get free review!)

Answer appears Thursday

Last Weeks answer: Boston
College is in Chestnut Hill,
Massachusetts.

846-TUTOR (8886)



Look for our ads
in the Batt on
Mondays
&Thursdays

The week of February 22 - February 26

Acct 229	Part I Mon Feb 23 5pm-7pm or 7pm-9pm	Part II Tue Feb 24 7pm-9pm	Part III Wed Feb 25 7pm-9pm	Part IV Thur Feb 26 5pm-7pm or 7pm-9pm
Acct 229/209 Billy's Video	Joiner Sun Feb 22 7pm	Strawser Sun Feb 22 7pm	Shomaker Mon Feb 23 9pm	
Acct 230 Tiger Manu	Part I Tue Feb 24 9pm-12am	Part II Wed Feb 25 9pm-12am	Next Week Acct 230 Tiger Manufacturing Acct 315 Bana 303 Bana 305 Biol 113 Econ 322 Finc 341 Mgmt 211	
Acct 316	Part I Tue Feb 24 7pm-9pm	Part II Wed Feb 25 7pm-9pm		

Tickets Go on sale Sunday at 5:30 p.m.
4.0 & Go is located on the corner of SW Pkwy and TX Ave, behind KFC next to Lack's