

Texas A&M beats 'Horns

The Texas A&M Men's Tennis Team (17-4, 7-2) will travel to Starkville, Miss. on Saturday to take on the No. 4-ranked Mississippi State Bulldogs.



How Sweet It Is

After losing, 4-3, to the University of Texas in Austin earlier this season, A&M was looking for revenge against the No. 5 Longhorns in the final round of the Big 12 Championships in Lincoln, Neb., on Sunday. To say the Aggies merely got even with the Longhorns would be like saying Muhammad Ali was a pretty good boxer. A&M trounced Texas, 4-0, to clinch its first ever conference tournament title.

A Giant Leap For Aggiekind

In the Rolex Collegiate Rankings due out on May 5, the Aggies can expect to move up quite a few spots from their current No. 24 position. In the two-week span that will be reflected in the rankings, A&M played its best tennis of the year. The Aggies started their fantastic fortnight by traveling to Waco and defeating No. 1 Baylor, 6-1. They returned home the next night and ranked No. 39 Kansas, 7-0. In their three rounds of play in the Big 12 Championships, the Aggies did not lose a match, winning 4-0 against Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas.

May Madness

The Aggies will travel to Austin on May 15 to compete in the NCAA Regionals.

PLEASE SEE LAZARUS ON PAGE 7.

Aggies try to snap Sam Houston streak

Bearkats take 2-0 record against A&M this season to College Station for possible sweep Tuesday night

— From staff and wire reports —

Maybe the third time's the charm. The Texas A&M Baseball Team will be seeking its first win in three tries against Sam Houston State Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at Olsen Field. Sam Houston State won the first game for the season or the Bearkats or of the year, 10-

and no earned runs. Courtney Weller took the loss in relief of Chance Caple, who had worked four innings, and Kyle Holle, who worked 1.2 innings.

In the second game of the series, played April 7 at Olsen Field, A&M spotted the Bearkats a 5-0 lead after four innings and could not make up the difference, despite a Craig Kuzmic homer that scored two runs in the ninth inning. Sam Houston State is coming off a weekend in which they lost three one-run games to Northwestern State, dropping their record in conference to 12-10 and their overall record to 26-25.

A&M will be looking to continue the success of a weekend sweep over Kansas that put the Aggies into the lead of the Big 12 conference with a 19-8 conference record and a 37-15 record that has the team ranked 10th nationally by *Baseball America*.

Despite the two losses earlier this year, A&M still leads the all-time series, 60-33-1, with the first game coming in 1950. The Bearkats took two of three from the Aggies in 1994. The only other team to have taken two of three from A&M this season is Oklahoma State.

The game will be A&M's last non-conference game at Olsen Field in the regular season. The Aggies will play their last conference game Friday night against the Baylor Bears in the first of a three game series that will decide the Big 12 regular season champion.



First baseman John Scheschuk will try not to repeat the earlier outcomes against Sam Houston.

Baseball Update

Record: 37-15, 19-8 Big 12
Next Game: vs. Sam Houston
Time: 7 p.m.
Scheduled Starters: Chance Caple (7-0, 3.55 ERA) vs. Bearkats' TBA

7, in Huntsville on Feb. 24. The Aggies led 7-3 going into the bottom of the sixth in a game that saw A&M walk nine batters and commit three errors as the Bearkats' pitching shut down the Aggies, allowing nine hits, one walk

Jamison declares for NBA draft

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — Antawn Jamison is convinced he is ready for pro basketball, and he will be heading to the NBA with degree in hand.

The national player of the year said Monday he will forgo his senior year at North Carolina, passing up a chance to become the Atlantic Coast Conference's career scoring leader to enter the NBA draft on June 24.

"When it was time to leave it was difficult to swallow because these three years have probably been the best three years of my life," Jamison said. "It is a lot more difficult than I thought it would be."

The 6-foot-9 forward was joined at a news conference by coach Bill Guthridge, former coach Dean Smith, parents Albert and Kathy Jamison and several teammates.

"A big reason you are in coaching is you want what's best for your players," Guthridge said. "There aren't many that get this opportunity. So you are thrilled for him."

Jamison is the 13th player to declare early for the NBA draft, joining such players as Mike Bibby of Arizona, Paul Pierce of Kansas and Robert Traylor of Michigan. Among the 13 are two high school players.

Smith will advise underclassmen to turn pro if they're projected in the draft's top five. The former coach did most of the legwork for Jamison, calling at least 16 NBA teams to gauge interest. He likes what he heard.

Jamison, the school's first national player of the year since Michael Jordan in 1984, said he would get his college degree in African studies after two sessions of summer school, meaning he will graduate two semesters ahead of his class.

"The most important thing for me is no matter what happens I have the opportunity to graduate this summer," he said.

"That was the most important thing about coming to school, to get a degree and maybe having a chance to play in the NBA. I am so close to getting them both at the same time it was an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

Jamison, the ACC player of the year, averaged 22.2 points and 10.5 rebounds this season, becoming the first North Carolina player since Billy Cunningham in 1964-65 to average a double-double.

He finished seventh on North Carolina's scoring list and fourth in rebounding. This year he set season marks for field goals and rebounds and was second in points in leading the Tar Heels to a 34-4 record and their second straight Final Four. North Carolina lost to Utah in the semifinals.

Jamison said there was no chance he would withdraw his name before the draft, even if the NBA owners lock out the players.

SPORTS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

Golf team picked to play in NCAAs **Astros use ninth to beat New York**

After capturing the Big 12 Golf Championship, the No. 11 Texas A&M Women's Golf Team was selected by the NCAA to compete in the West regional at Stanford University May 7-9.

The Aggies will be the fourth seed in the West District behind Tulsa, TCU and New Mexico State.

Other teams competing in the West are Oklahoma State University, the University of Texas, Texas Tech University, the University of New Mexico and the University of Missouri.

The regional competition will encompass five districts and will have a total of 204 participants with the top 99 players advancing to the championships May 20-23 at the University of Wisconsin.

NEW YORK (AP) — Tony Eusebio's RBI double capped a three-run ninth inning as the Houston Astros rallied to beat the New York Mets 4-3 Monday in a makeup of a rained out game.

John Franco (0-1), who allowed all three runs in the ninth for his first blown save in six chances, began the inning by walking Derek Bell. Jeff Bagwell followed with a single and Bill Spiers walked to load the bases. Moises Alou made it 3-2 with a sacrifice fly to score Bell.

After pinch-hitter Richard Hidalgo reached on an infield single to load the bases, Ricky Gutierrez tied the game with a sacrifice fly.

Eusebio then doubled to right scoring Spiers and giving the Astros their fourth straight win.

I think you're supposed to get shot with an arrow or something, but the rest of it isn't supposed to be so painful.
— Todd, age 8

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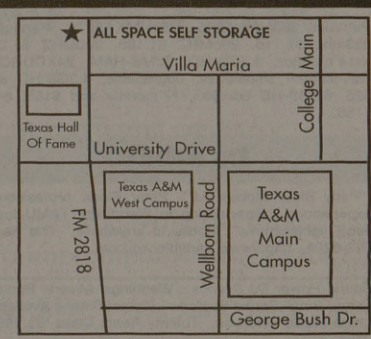
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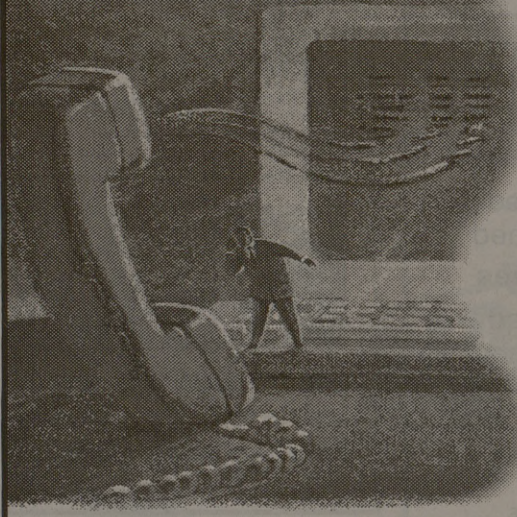
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