

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Bobcats down Denver

By TYLER MAYFORTH
Daily Record Sports

LAS VEGAS — No one, even Texas State's administration, gave Doug Davalos' team a shot to advance to the semifinals of the Western Athletic Conference Tournament.

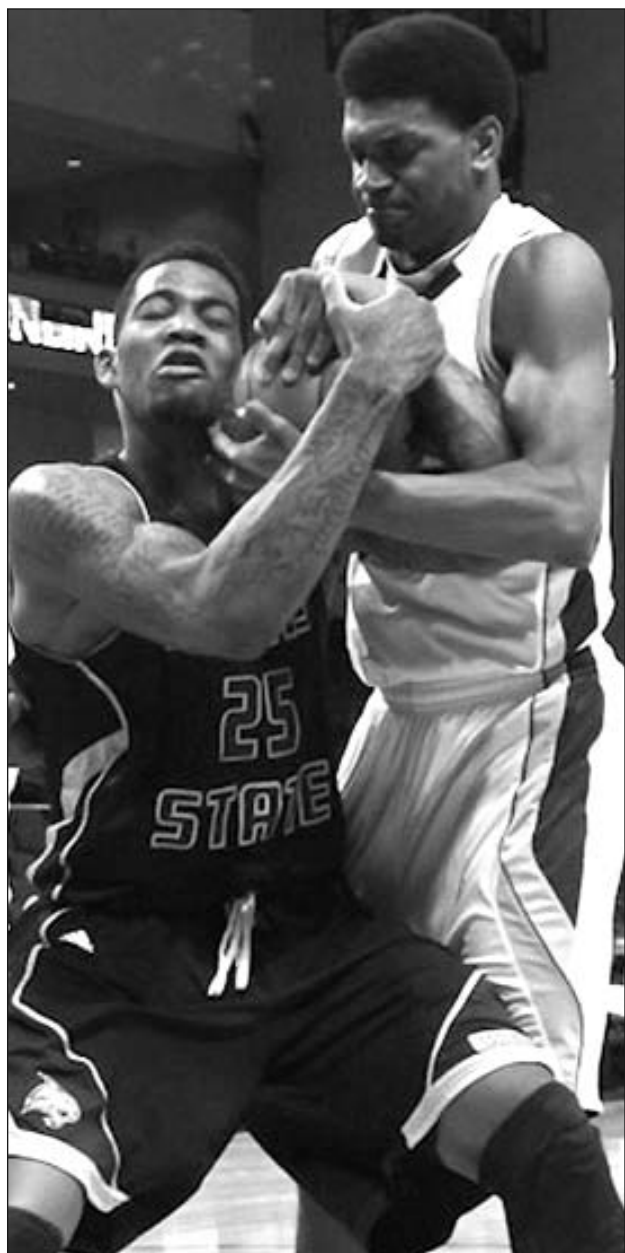
Even before the tournament began, the Bobcats were booked to fly home Friday morning. Any team in the penultimate round would play later that evening.

Whoever bought those tickets probably did so well before Texas State finally gelled as a team last Saturday in San Jose, dominated Seattle in Tuesday's quarterfinals and turned the bracket on its head Thursday afternoon with its 72-68 upset of the second-seeded team, the University of Denver.

By the time junior forward Joel Wright locked up his third 30-point game of the season with a pair of free throws to put the Bobcats up five with six seconds left in regulation, their reserves made sure everybody knew their plans when they chanted, "Change our flight."

Wright single-handedly propelled Texas State to the program's biggest win in recent memory.

It didn't matter how the Pioneers defended Wright



WAC Photo

Texas State junior forward Joel Wright scored a game-high 30 points in his team's 72-68 win over Denver.



WAC Photo

Texas State junior guard Phil Hawkins scored 13 points in the Bobcats' 72-68 win over Denver in the quarterfinals of the Western Athletic Conference Tourney.

See **Men**, Page 7A

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Last district tune-up for the Rattlers

By RANDY STEVENS
Sports Editor

After scoring an exciting, come-from-behind win against Cibolo-Steele on Wednesday, the San Marcos High School baseball team will shoot for one more win before beginning district play next week with today's 2:30 p.m. game at San Antonio-Roosevelt.

Steele looked like it was on its way to a blow-out win after scoring eight runs in the top of the second and holding a 10-1 lead late in Wednesday's game Rattler Field.

But the Rattlers rallied back with five

See **Rattlers**, Page 7A



Daily Record Photo by Gerald Castillo

San Marcos' Elijah Perez connected for a grand slam in Wednesday's win over Cibolo-Steele. The Rattlers visit San Antonio-Roosevelt today for a 2:30 p.m. game.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



Daily Record Photo by Gerald Castillo

Ellie Hernandez focuses on a pitch during the Lady Rattlers' 5-2 win over Argyle in pool play of the SMHS Spring Break Classic Thursday afternoon.

SMHS splits pool games at Classic

By RANDY STEVENS
Sports Editor

After opening pool play at the SMHS Spring Break Classic with a lackluster, 9-2 loss to Lubbock Monterey, San Marcos bounced

back with a 5-2 win over Argyle, allowing the Lady Rattlers to move into a playoff for a spot in the tournament's Gold Bracket Thursday afternoon at the Gary Softball Complex.

"We didn't come out with the focus we needed in that first game.

Our energy wasn't there we had girls show up late and we had all sorts of things that distracted out focus," SMHS head softball coach Cathy Stoughton said. "But to come back and bounce back in the

See **SMHS**, Page 7A

COLLEGE BASEBALL

State hosts weekend series vs. A&M-CC

From Staff Reports

Texas State returns home after five games on the road to host Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at Bobcat Ballpark this weekend, starting with tonight's 6:30 p.m. game, followed by a 2 p.m. game

Saturday and 12 p.m. game Sunday.

The Bobcats fell, 7-3, in the first meeting between the teams this season but will have home field advantage this weekend. So far, the Bobcats are an even 5-5 at home while the Islanders are only 1-2

on the road.

There is a small difference in Texas State's approach this weekend as the usual Friday starter, Kyle Finnegan will pitch Sunday, moving up Taylor Black on Friday and Scott Grist on Saturday. The trio will face Trevor

Foss on Friday, Trevor Belicek on Saturday and Adam Hoelscher on Sunday.

It would be good for Texas State to pick up some wins and gain momentum as next week-

See **State**, Page 7A

LOCAL SCHEDULE...

- Friday, March 15**
- Men's College Basketball**
 - Texas State at Western Athletic Conference Tournament, TBA
 - College Baseball**
 - Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at Texas State, 6:30 p.m.
 - Women's College Golf**
 - Texas State at Mountainview Collegiate, Tuscon, Ariz.
 - Men's College Golf**
 - Texas State at Border Olympics, Laredo
 - College Track and Field**
 - Texas State at TCU Invitational,

- Fort Worth
- College Softball**
 - Texas State at Sacramento State, noon
 - High School Softball**
 - San Marcos, Wimberley at SMHS Rattler Classic, TBA
 - Kerrville-Tivy at Lehman, 7 p.m.
 - High School Baseball**
 - San Marcos at San Antonio-Roosevelt, Blossom Field, 2:30 p.m.
 - Hays at Converse-Judson, noon
 - Canyon Lake at Wimberley, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, March 16**
- Men's College Basketball**
 - Texas State at Western Athletic Conference Tournament, TBA
 - Women's College Basketball**
 - Texas State at Western Athletic

- Conference Tournament, TBA
 - College Baseball**
 - Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at Texas State, 2 p.m.
 - Women's College Golf**
 - Texas State at Mountainview Collegiate, Tuscon, Ariz.
 - Men's College Golf**
 - Texas State at Border Olympics, Laredo
 - High School Softball**
 - San Marcos, Wimberley at SMHS Rattler Classic, TBA
- BRIEFLY...**
- Wounded Warrior Golf Tournament**
The Texas Wounded Warrior Golf

- Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, May 11 at Quail Creek Country Club. Cost is \$125 per player in the four-man scramble tournament, which starts at 1 p.m., and includes cart, driving range balls, a tournament shirt, gift bag, door prizes, lunch, dinner and live music. For more information, go to www.twgolf.com.
- Quail Creek Ladies Golf League**
The Quail Creek Ladies League plays every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. at Quail Creek Country Club. To sign up, call 353-1665 before 9 a.m.
- See **Briefs**, Page 7A

The Daily Record's
TWO MINUTE DRILL

Men...

(From Page 6A)

or who they threw on him. Wright took advantage of countless mismatches on his way to 32 points on near-perfect shooting (9-of-10).

"Scoring ... I don't really focus on scoring, to tell you the truth," said Wright, who now leads the WAC in that category. "I just focus on trying to make sure all of my guys are right, that we are being a team, getting closer together and winning games."

Throughout the season, the Bobcats — and Wright, especially — used the word "family" to describe the aura around the team. That wasn't the case in previous years dominated by infighting and player defections, which had been a main reason why Texas State never found much success.

"I had so many coaches and people giving me condolences the last couple days, because they're (Denver) such a good team," Davalos said. "The thing about this team I'm coaching is: They're a really good team, too. We've had ups and downs and struggled at times, but some of it's been getting to know each other and figuring out

what we needed to do to be successful.

This is the tightest-knit team that I've coached. They're not letting their egos get in the way. They followed the game plan to a 'T.' We were very confident against Denver."

Nothing fazed the Bobcats, as they jumped out to a 10-0 lead and rarely looked back. Even though the Pioneers tied the game three times (all in the first half) and threatened to steal momentum, Texas State answered the bell each time. When Denver evened the game for the last time at 32-all with 1:35 left until intermission, junior guard Phil Hawkins scored five consecutive points to close the half.

"We all stuck together through adversity," said Hawkins, who finished with 13 points and two assists. "They were hitting some tough shots, but we stayed together and pulled each other together."

Now the battled-tested Bobcats face No. 3 New Mexico State in Friday's semifinal, which begins at 8 p.m.

Those in charge might want to wait to book Texas State's trip home.

Rattlers...

(From Page 6A)

runs in the fifth and six more in the sixth to score a 12-11 victory.

Elijah Perez' grand slam home run sparked the Rattlers' five-run burst in the fifth, while Noel Zapata and Cole Coleman each came through with RBI doubles in the sixth. Tucker Smith and Perez also drove in runs in the sixth.

The win allowed the Rattlers to improve to 14-5-1 on the season.

"It was a great to see the guys battle back and not give in even we were down a lot early," SMHS head baseball coach Bryan Webb said. "That's the sign of a good ballclub."

Zapata is San Marcos' top-hitting starter, batting .426 with 23 RBIs, including 10 doubles and three doubles.

SMHS junior righty Chance Laidley will get the start on the hill, entering the game with a 4-1 record and a 0.74 ERA. He also leads the Rattlers' pitching staff with 15 strikeouts.

Roosevelt comes into today's game with an overall record of 5-11-1 after going 1-4 in last weekend's San Antonio-East Central Tournament.

Sophomore Brennen Boykin is Roosevelt's leading hitter with a .422 batting average that includes 11 RBIs. Junior Jacob Preciado is hitting .417 with nine RBIs and leads the team with four doubles.

First pitch is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. at San Antonio's Blossom Field. San Marcos opens District 25-5A play Tuesday with a 7 p.m. game at Smithson Valley.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE GOLF

Bobcats headed to Arizona

From Staff Reports

The Texas State women's golf team looks to tie the school season record of three tournament victories, beginning Friday at the Mountainview Intercollegiate in Mesa, Ariz.

The tournament is hosted by the University of Missouri and Kansas State.

"We are excited to get back into competition. It has been a few weeks since we played. The team has been working hard to improve. This

should be a good tune up for the WAC Championship that will be held in Mesa, Ariz., in April."

The Bobcats won by an impressive 19 strokes in its last tournament, at the Jim West Challenge in Blanco. At that event, Iman Nordin won her first individual tournament by a stroke, thanks to a final round 72.

Also in the field this week aside from the host schools will be Indiana, Iowa, North Texas, Texas Tech and WAC school San Jose State

among others. Competing for the Bobcats will be the nation's leader in birdies Krista Puisite, the aforementioned Nordin along with Valdis Jonsdottir, Lejan Lewthwaite and Lora Assad.

Krista's sister Mara will be competing as an individual.

There will be 36 holes played on Friday and 18 on Saturday. This will be the final tournament before the Bobcats host the Challenge at Onion Creek on April 1-2 in Austin.

Baseball...

(From Page 6A)

end's series starts Western Athletic Conference play with a road trip to New Mexico State followed by a mid-week game against Texas.

First, the Bobcats will have to find a way to stop the powerful top four of

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi's lineup. Zach Taylor, Kyle Danford, Eric Weiss and Jordan Lee are all hitting above .300 with Taylor topping the list at .391. The foursome has a combined 73 hits, nearly half of the Islander's total of 148.

SMHS...

(From Page 6A)

second game, and play well, that's what we needed."

San Marcos jumped on Argyle with three runs in the top of the third thanks to a Alyssa Del Los Santos' RBI double into left field and a Vianey Villalpando's RBI on a fielder's choice. Stephanie Marmolejo stole home to give the Lady Rattlers 3-0 lead.

SMHS posted two more runs in the top of the fourth with Marmolejo's RBI double into left field, followed by a RBI

single from Ellie Hernandez. Argyle added a run in the fourth and fifth innings, but couldn't manage any more in the time-limited game.

SMHS freshman right-hander Victoria Vasquez dominate din the circle, giving up two runs on four hits with 10 strikeouts and only two walks.

San Marcos will begin bracket play today against with the opponent and time to be determined.

The tournament continues through Saturday.

sanmarcos record.com

Etcetera

San Marcos Daily Record

Boys being boys on campus flirt with sexual harassment

DEAR ABBY: I am a young woman on a predominantly male college campus. One morning while walking to a class, I had the unfortunate of walking a few feet ahead of a pair of boys who were having an incredibly offensive and loud conversation about their sexual interests. It was extremely derogatory toward women, and just plain disgusting.



Dear Abby

tempt them. Because this isn't an isolated incident, what you have described could be considered a form of sexual harassment. You and your sorority sisters should -- as a group -- bring this to the attention of the dean because you are a minority on that campus and the boys apparently haven't learned to function in an integrated environment.

DEAR ABBY: Can a sexless marriage last? My wife and I have been married for 17 years and our sex life has been slowing for a long time. We have sex less than 10 times a year.

We get along great and are the best of friends. My wife is attractive and fun to be with, and I don't know what happened to us. What causes women to lose their sex drive? (Then they wonder why their husbands have affairs.)

My wife is in good health. There are no medical issues. We see more friends (both lovers, I don't think she's involved with anyone else. I want a fun, active sex life, but I don't want to upset her or lose the closeness we have. It's just that I'm watching our sex life evaporate. Please help. MIKE IN MISSOURI

DEAR MIKE: As women age, their hormone levels decrease, which can cause the sex drive to diminish. The reduced hormone levels can also make sex painful. If your wife would discuss

these changes with her gynecologist or an endocrinologist, there may be a solution that would put some spark back in your marriage. However, that won't happen unless you are able to speak frankly with her about what's bothering you.

DEAR ABBY: I have been studying my whole life to become a classical singer. Many people have put great effort into helping me to succeed, especially my mother, who wanted to be an opera singer when she was my age. She is not a pushy stage mother, though. I chose to pursue music myself.

However, I have recently realized my heart is not fully in it and that I'd rather go to law school. I'm afraid to tell my mother and the other people about my decision because they have invested so much in me as a performer. I don't want to disappoint them, but my passion is now constrained. How do I share the news without breaking my mother's heart? -- SINGING A DIFFERENT TUNE

DEAR SINGING: Your mother may be disappointed, but her heart will heal. If your passion is not in opera singing, the truth is you won't go very far in the field. (Even people who are passionate about it don't always succeed.) Wanting to be a lawyer is nothing to be ashamed of. Follow your dream.

Today's horoscopes

YOUR BIRTHDAY by Stella Wilder

Been today, you are a creative and hard-working individual able to stick with a project through thick and thin until you have either achieved your goals or exhausted every possible chance for success. You're not the kind to keep looking away at something when you know you cannot win, and you consider failure a form of learning. You have something of the visionary about you, and the ability to transform even the most unusual or outrageous ideas into reality. Others are sure to look to you when such ideas are called for in all manner of situations.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) - You cannot avoid selecting a situation today. Focus on the options you must take to keep yourself in another's good graces.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - The help you give to another today is going to mean a lot to both of you -- and one good thing can surely lead to another.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Take care that you don't let someone off the hook today before you cover all the issues that are in play right now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) - You're not going to get a good deal just by complaining to another about what you're going through. You must be willing to help yourself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - You aren't really doing what you can to further your own agenda, are you? Today, you'll have the chance to slip things up considerably.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) - Now is no time for you to do anything that might displease those in charge. Later in the day you'll be ready to ask for an expert's guidance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Getting things done today can be as easy as one, two, three -- but if you find yourself going out of order, the difficulty rises exponentially.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - You and a rival may have reached an impasse, and the best thing either one of you can do is to call it quits -- at least for now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - A run-in with someone who has a more extensive track record than you proves beneficial: He or she is willing to give you the kind of help he or she received some time ago.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - You'll be the one others look to today when it's time for someone to take charge -- though you may make one or two wrong decisions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - You may be getting pressure from all sides at this time. The choice you have to make will affect others -- be ready for discussion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - It's time for you to make up your mind about something that has been weighing on you for some time.

Pearls Before Swine



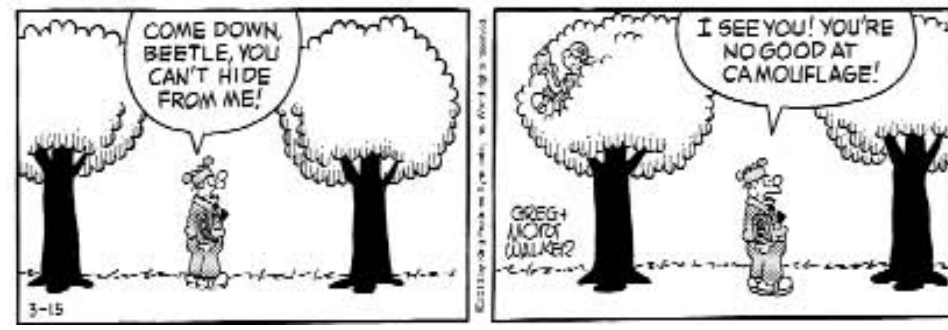
Garfield



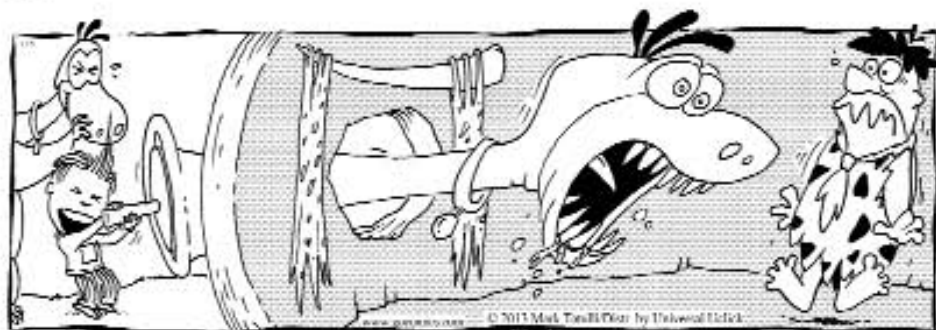
Blondie



Beetle Bailey



Lio



Big Nate



The Wizard of Id



Hagar

