

MONDAY
April 1, 1996

Ags dismiss UT, answer NCAA call

sports GLANCE

Grizzlies' streak hits 22 in loss to Hornets

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — The Charlotte Hornets salvaged the last stop of a five-game road trip and sent the Vancouver Grizzlies to their 22nd consecutive defeat Sunday with a 121-88 victory.

Charlotte, which snapped a two-game losing streak, finished 3-2 on its five-game trip and moved within one game of Miami in the race for the eighth and final playoff spot in the East.

Vancouver moved within two losses of the longest losing streak in NBA history — 24 straight by Cleveland in the 1981-82 and 82-83 seasons. The Grizzlies broke the single season record Friday with their 21st.

Matt Geiger led the Hornets with 20 points and 10 rebounds. Glen Rice scored 18 despite playing with a sore back.

Bryant Reeves had 17 points and nine rebounds for the Grizzlies, who allowed the most points they ever have at GM Place.

Magic dominate Knicks, win Atlantic

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — The Orlando Magic claimed their second straight Atlantic Division title Sunday, beating the New York Knicks 98-79 behind a 32-point performance by Shaquille O'Neal.

The defending Eastern Conference champions tied the NBA record for fewest turnovers in a game with three while improving to 34-1 at Orlando Arena, where they won 40 consecutive regular-season games before losing to the Los Angeles Lakers last week.

The Magic are 20-4 since the All-Star break and, at 54-18 overall, moved within three wins of the franchise record for victories in a season with 10 games to play.

Longhorns paste Rice behind two-hitter

AUSTIN (AP) — Scott Leon pitched a compete game two-hit shutout of Rice on Sunday as the Longhorns won 12-0. It was Texas' seventh straight win.

Leon (4-2) walked only two batters while striking out four. Texas took the lead in the bottom of the first on MacGregor Byers' single and Danny Peoples' RBI double.

Texas put the game away in the fifth by sending 11 men to the plate and scoring seven runs on six hits.

Peoples went 2-for-4, with a double, a triple, two runs scored and three RBI.

Rice (22-13) lost its seventh straight and fell to 2-9 in the Southwest Conference. Adam Herdon (2-1) took the loss for the Owls.

Texas upped its record to 24-13 overall and 6-2 in the SWC.

Astros make final roster moves for spring

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros on Sunday optioned lefthanded pitcher Dean Hartgraves to their AAA Tucson farm team and placed righthanded pitcher John Hudek on the 15-day disabled list.

Hudek's stint on the disabled list was made retroactive to March 22. He has been idled by a torn muscle in his neck.

To fill Hudek's roster spot, the Astros have recalled lefthanded pitcher Alvin Morman from Tucson.

The moves get the club to the 25-player roster limit for Monday's opening day of the 1996 season.

Blackhawks' Probert knocks out Dallas, 5-3

CHICAGO (AP) — Bob Probert had his first two-goal game with Chicago and also assisted on Brent Sutter's goal Sunday, leading the Blackhawks to a 5-3 victory over the Dallas Stars.

Tony Amonte and Jeff Shantz also scored and Ed Belfour made 22 saves for the Blackhawks, who won for only the second time in six games without injured scoring leader Jeremy Roenick.

Benoit Hogue, Brent Gilchrist and Greg Adams scored for the Stars, who almost have to win their final seven games to avoid missing the playoffs for the first time since moving from Minnesota to Dallas in 1993.

Signed as a free agent before last season but suspended by the league for recurring problems with drugs and alcohol, Probert has played well for Chicago since getting reinstated before this season.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Members of the Texas A&M and University of Texas track teams sprint toward the finish line in the Men's 100-meter dash Saturday at the Anderson Track Complex. Competing in the event for A&M were Billy Fobbs (second from left), Michael Price (center) and Toya Jones (second from right). Fobbs won the event with a time of 10.32 seconds.

Texas A&M had NCAA Championship qualifiers in five events on Saturday

Staff and Wire Reports

It was not Kyle Field, nor was it packed with 75,000 screaming fans, but the Anderson Track Complex was the sight of another tough clash between Texas A&M and the University of Texas Saturday.

In a men's dual track and field meet, the Aggies blew past the Longhorns 98-55 in a meet laden with NCAA-qualifying times.

All told, A&M had NCAA qualifiers in five events, including the 400-meter relay in which Michael Price, Toya Jones, Billy Fobbs and Michael McKinney set a new meet record of 39.77 seconds, breaking the old mark set by A&M in 1982 of 40.15 seconds.

Also posting a qualifying mark was senior Curt Young,

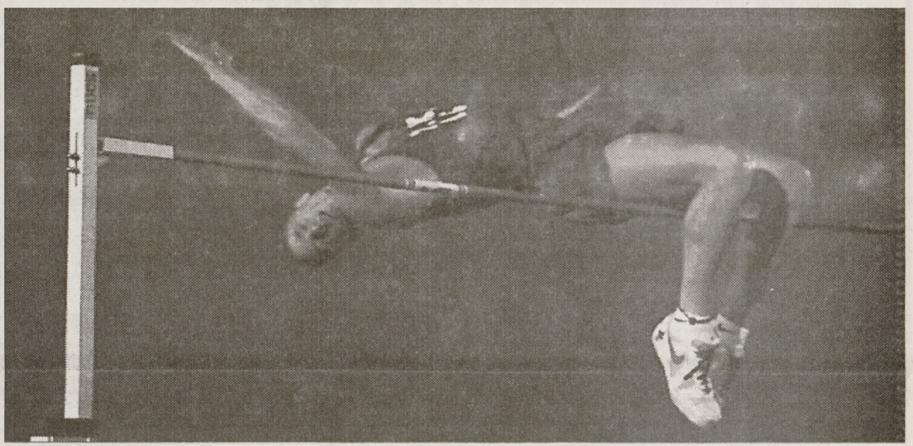
who ran a time of 50.78 in the 400-m hurdles. He smashed the track record of 50.80 set by former Aggie Richard Murphy in 1993.

Also qualifying for the upcoming NCAA Championships were Tim Bryant in the long jump, Fobbs in the 100-m dash and Fernando Palomo and Nery Kennedy in the javelin.

In all, the Aggie men took first place in 13 of the 19 events while rolling up 98 points — nearly double the Longhorns' total.

Although heavy winds affected some of the times, the Aggies still dominated the night's action.

Perhaps A&M's most dominating performance came in the javelin. Besides Palomo and Kennedy's times, A&M also had the fourth and seventh-place competitors.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M senior Todd Pratt skies over the bar en route to a first-place finish in the high jump during Saturday's competition at the Anderson Track Complex.

Raiders' big bats, comebacks doom Aggies all weekend

Texas Tech swept A&M in a four-game SWC series

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Texas Tech's Jeff Peck tossed a complete-game four-hitter as the Red Raiders routed Texas A&M 12-1 on Sunday.

The win extended Tech's home winning streak to 25 games dating back to last season. The Raiders (35-4 overall, 10-2 SWC) have won six in a row.

The Aggies (24-12, 5-7) were swept in a four-game series for the first time in school history.

After giving up three hits and a run in the second in-

ning, Peck (6-0) allowed just one hit the rest of the way, a bunt single by Jason Tyner in the fifth. Following Tyner's hit, Peck struck out 13 consecutive batters.

The Raiders, meanwhile jumped on A&M starter John Sneed early, scoring nine runs on 10 hits before Sneed exited in the fourth.

The Aggies committed a season-high six errors.

The game capped a horrible weekend for the Aggies in which they had hoped to assert themselves in the South-

west Conference race, but instead found themselves 5-7 in the standings.

The Aggies were hit with a Mack truck in the first game of the series, played Friday night during a wind storm that averaged 30 miles per hour with gusts up to 44.

The Red Raiders jumped all over A&M starter Matt Blank and every other pitcher the Aggies tossed out on to the mound — ringing up 26 runs on a school-record 29 hits en route to punishing A&M 26-9.

The Red Raiders blasted nine home runs on the night compared to just one — a solo shot by Aggie catcher William Shifflett — for A&M.

On Saturday, A&M played more like the No. 15 team in the nation, but was still no match for No. 2 Texas Tech.

Although the Red Raiders fell behind in both games, they staged late rallies to take the doubleheader — 10-7 and 7-5.

With the embarrassing weekend behind them, the Aggies now have a break from conference play with a game Tuesday against Sam Houston State followed by a three-game weekend state against perennial doormat Dallas Baptist.

The Aggies will return to conference play on Friday, April 12 when they host Texas Christian University in the first of three games at Olsen Field.

The Aggies will not face Texas Tech again this season unless the two teams meet in the SWC Tournament in Lubbock.



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M infielder David Finkel makes a tough throw at third while pitcher Scott Barrett checks the baserunners at Olsen Field.

Lady Ags trounce Tech for fastest start ever

Staff and Wire Reports

The streaking Texas A&M Women's Tennis Team completed a weekend sweep of Southwest Conference opponents by trouncing the Texas Tech Red Raiders, 9-0, Sunday at the Lubbock Municipal Tennis Center.

The Lady Aggies, who also beat Texas Christian 6-3 on Saturday in Fort Worth, are off to the fastest start in school history with a 13-3 overall showing and a 4-1 record in SWC play.

The victory over the Red Raiders was the lady Aggies' sixth straight and capped off a stretch of five consecutive road matches.

Leading the way for A&M was senior Wilson Pate, who

won her 12th straight match and improved her record to 14-1 overall this spring with the victory over Tech's Carrie Helbing, 6-4, 6-0 at No.2.

Lady Aggie junior Julie Beahm improved her spring record to 12-3 by dominating the Red Raisers' Lauren Spears, 6-1, 6-0, at No. 5.

"We felt in control the entire day," Lady Aggie Head Coach Bobby Kleinecke said. "Tech is an improved team from last year, but we knew in order to win today, all we had to do was come out and take care of business."

The Lady Aggies will close out the regular season with four matches at home, first welcoming Southern Methodist to the Omar Smith Tennis Center Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

Professors, here is why I am skipping your class



NICK GEORGANDIS
SPORTS EDITOR

By the time you read this, I may already be in Sportz Edita's Paradise (Sorry, Coolio.)

This is no April Fool's joke, this is baseball's Opening Day.

If you've ever spoken to me before, you know exactly where I am right now — The Astrodome in Houston for my 11th consecutive Astros' home opener.

My impending entry into the job market has made this Opening Day all that more important because it seems likely that my next job won't be as lenient about letting me have most of the day off.

The last four years have been tough because I've also had to miss school to go to Houston. Today, my schedule would normally include Graphics, Anthropology, Graphics Lab and Literature of the Sea. Alas, my classmates will have to forgo ahead without me.

To my professors, there should be little surprise in my absence given the number of times already this semester that my seat has been conspicuously empty when lecture begins. This time I really don't feel that bad though, because I consider this excursion as legitimate as any note I could garner from Beutel.

To my parents, yes, this is the reason I'm graduating with that 2.6 GPR, because my priorities are arranged thusly.

To everyone stuck in class reading this, shame on you. Do yourself a favor and remember what's important in life. Take a minute to smell the beer and hot dogs.