

Aggies hoping to keep bats alive

By True Brown
THE BATTALION

After picking up wins in two of three games against Big 12 rival Oklahoma last weekend, the Texas A&M baseball team returns to the road for a Tuesday game at Lamar University in Beaumont. The contest will be the first of four road games this week for the Aggies (20-10, 7-5 Big 12), and begin a two-week break from league play.

Last weekend's wins over OU were a reversal from the previous weekend's series sweep at the hands of the Nebraska Cornhuskers. That Nebraska series is the lone conference series the No. 17 Aggies have lost this season. A&M's 7-5 conference record places it in fourth place.

"We've won three out of four Big 12 series," said A&M

head coach Mark Johnson. "It's too bad we got swept, and it would have been nice to get a sweep against Oklahoma, but that would be awful greedy. Oklahoma just came off winning two of three against Arizona State on the road, so maybe we shouldn't be so greedy. I don't think we're out of the hunt."

A&M's hitting came alive against the Sooners, something that did not happen against the Cornhuskers, who handed A&M its first consecutive shutouts since 1994.

The Aggies' 34 hits against OU were a far cry from the 13 hits A&M collected in Lincoln, Nebraska, and hitting has been key to A&M's wins.

"I wish I knew what would

See **Hitting** on page 9



John Livas • THE BATTALION
Texas A&M sophomore infielder Erik Schindewolf tags OU's Reggie [Name] out at second base during A&M's 11-2 win Sunday at Olsen Field.

Carry a big stick

Freshman Gregory leading A&M's offensive assault

By Micala Proesch
THE BATTALION

The No. 22 Texas A&M softball team has had its share of success this season, and freshman phenomenon Adrian Gregory is delivering the brunt of the damage. Gregory currently leads the Aggies in several major batting categories.

Gregory boasts a team-leading .366 batting average, a .459 on-base percentage and is tied with senior Lisa Klam with 34 hits on the season.

Despite her loud entrance onto the college softball scene, Gregory remains modest about her performance and is dedicated to helping out the team.

"I am just trying to pull my part and help out the team," Gregory said. "As long as I am helping my team out, then I am happy. I don't really think about individual stats."

Gregory came into Aggieland as the top recruit of head coach Jo Evans' freshman class after having an exceptional high school career. Gregory pitched for Livingston High School and was a three-time all-district MVP selection and a three-time all-state selection.

Evans said Gregory has adjusted well to college softball. "Adrian played for a smaller high school, but she is very competitive and hard-working, and she has made a great adjustment to the college level," Evans said.

Gregory finds softball at A&M much more of a challenge than softball in high school, however, she said the challenge makes it much more exciting.



Stuart Villanueva • THE BATTALION
In her first season in collegiate softball, Texas A&M right fielder Adrian Gregory has already made an impact on the Aggies' lineup. Gregory leads the Aggies in batting average and on-base percentage.

"In high school, everything was given to you, and you didn't really have to earn anything," Gregory said. "But now, it's a whole different game, and everyone here is as good or better than you, and they all want to be here so you have to work a lot harder to earn your position and to earn respect."

Gregory is the starting right

fielder for the Aggies this season and serves as the primary backup for shortstop and second base. Since Gregory pitched in high school, the adjustment from the infield to the outfield has been a unique learning experience for her.

"It was really hard adjusting at first, since I had always played in the infield," Gregory

said. "But the coaching staff was really supportive, and they made the transition a lot easier for me. I just like to play, and whatever gets me playing time is what I will do."

Not only is Gregory contributing to the Aggies' prowess

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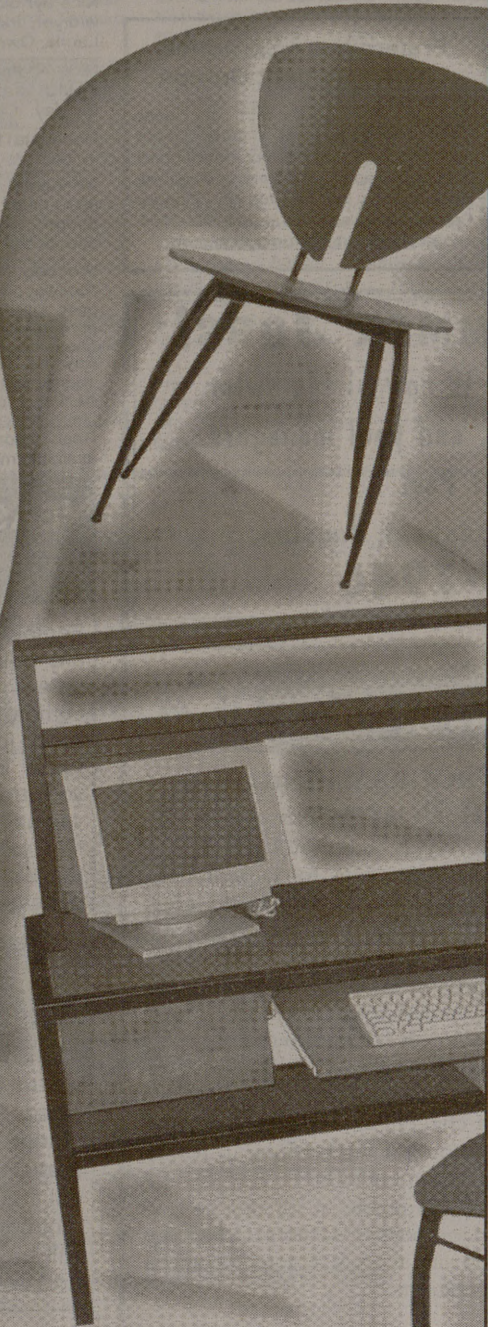
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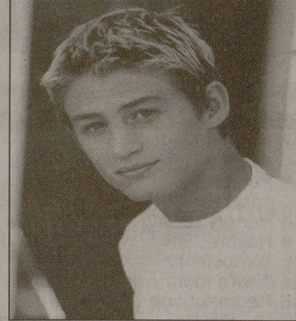
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