

Pitching, Sluggers, Weather Put Aggies in Good Spot

A&M has a toe-hold on the Southwest conference baseball crown today after sparkling pitching by its three mound aces, hefty slugging and an assist from the weatherman.

The 11-4 and 5-2 doubleheader the Cadets won from Rice yesterday gives A&M an 11-2 record and puts all the pressure on SMU.

SMU, rained out in Tuesday's TCU game with the score 4-4 at the end of eight innings, must now play three games in four days. They play the Frogs twice in Dallas today and meet Rice in Houston Saturday.

A&M doesn't play again until Monday, when they make up the

rained-out Mustang game in Dallas. The Aggies take on Texas in Austin the next day. The Longhorn game will be of no importance, however, if the Cadets defeat SMU.

If SMU and A&M finish in a tie, A&M would win the title because of their three wins over the Ponies. Yesterday Joe Hardgrove failed to go the distance for the first time this year after pulling a muscle in his throwing arm while pitching a first inning curve. He retired after the third, and soph Dick Munday finished, getting the first SWC win of his career.

It isn't known yet if Hardgrove will be ready to start the SMU game. Centerfielder John Stockton,

who sprained an ankle in the third inning of the opener, will be ready to go.

The Aggies collected two doubles, a triple and two homers in yesterday's first game, but it took Captain Les Byrd's homer in the last frame of the seven inning nightcap to provide the sweep.

Byrd's wallop, his second four-base blow of the day, came on a 2-0 pitch with Fred Ablon and Clyde Stinson on base. It traveled 350 feet over the left-center field fence and gave Jerry Nelson his fourth SWC victory.

Nelson pitched a brilliant three-hitter, and faced only 16 batters in

the first five innings. The Owls combined singles with walks and a hit batsman to pick up single runs in the sixth and seventh, however, and tied the game, 2-2.

Charlie Puls' single and Stinson's triple had brought in A&M runs in the fourth and fifth innings.

With one out in the Aggie seventh, Ablon got an infield single, his only hit of the day, and Stinson worked Owl starter James Briggs for a walk to set the stage for Byrd's towering blast.

A&M opened the scoring in the first game when Joe Schero's double scored Byrd in the first inning. Rice went ahead 2-1 in the third on LaDon Cox's two-run homer, the first of the year off

Hardgrove.

Then the Aggie power came to the fore as Hardgrove sliced a double to right, Stockton homered,

Rice got a run off Munday in the fourth on three singles to cut the

margin to 4-3, but the tall Bryan righthander doled out only two hits the rest of the way.

Three walks, a wild pitch, a two-

base throwing error on John Hoyle's bunt, and Munday's triple gave the Cadets three runs in the fourth and iced the game.

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Mr. Cleveland Joseph Gerard, a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Soil Physics, will present his dissertation, "Chromatographic Separation of Soil Organic Matter for the Purpose of Investigating its Role in Soil Aggregation," on Wednesday, May 25, 1955, at 1:30 p.m. in the Graduate Council Room. Interested members of the Graduate Faculty are invited to be present. 10912

Mr. Ahmad-Anwar Abdel-Bary Fetoh, a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Breeding, will present his dissertation, "The Relative Effectiveness of Two Systems of Breeding for High Fiber Strength in Cotton," on Friday, May 13, 1955, at 9:30 a.m. in the Graduate Council Room. Interested members of the Graduate Faculty are invited to be present. 10912

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RICE (4)	AB	H	O	A
Ludwig, cf	3	1	3	0
Cox, rf	4	1	1	0
Foster, 3b	1	1	1	1
Stegemeier, 3b	1	0	0	0
Arnos, 1b-1f	4	0	4	0
Trotter, lf	4	0	4	0
Chabysek, 2b	4	1	3	0
Pollard, lf	0	0	1	0
Reynolds, 1b	2	0	0	0
Navarro, c	4	0	5	2
Tejml, p	2	2	0	0
Floyd, p	2	1	0	0
TOTALS	33	8	24	6

A&M (11)

AB	H	O	A	
Ablon, rf-cf-1f	4	0	1	0
Stockton, cf-1f	3	1	4	0
Stinson, cf	3	1	4	0
Byrd, lf	5	3	1	0
Schero, 3b	5	2	2	2
Williams, c	5	2	2	0
Boring, ss	3	0	3	0
Puls, 2b	3	1	2	4
Hoyle, 1b	1	0	8	1
Hardgrove, p	1	1	0	0
Munday, p	3	1	1	1
TOTALS	35	11	27	9

SECOND A&M-RICE

RICE (2)	AB	H	O	A
Ludwig, cf	3	1	1	0
Cox, 3b	2	0	0	0
Arnos, 1b	3	0	0	0
Reynolds, 1b	2	0	7	0
Stegemeier, ss	2	0	1	3
Chabysek, 2b	2	0	0	2
Trotter, lf	3	0	1	0
Navarro, c	3	2	9	1
Briggs, p	0	0	2	2
TOTALS	22	3	19	8

A&M (6)

AB	H	O	A	
Ablon, rf	4	1	2	0
Stinson, cf	3	1	0	0
Byrd, lf	1	1	0	0
Schero, 3b	2	1	0	1
Williams, c	2	0	5	0
Boring, ss	1	1	2	1
Puls, 2b	2	1	2	1
Hoyle, 1b	3	2	7	0
Nelson, p	2	0	1	4
TOTALS	24	8	21	8

'MURAL HIGHLIGHTS

It's army against air force tonight in the finals of intramural softball.

Squadron 2 outslugged A anti-aircraft artillery, 15-10 last night, and will meet C anti-aircraft in upperclassmen play. A ordnance pounded squadron 12, 10-0, and gained the right to meet squadron 3 in the freshmen bracket.

Behind 10-8, going into the top of the seventh, squadron 2 scored seven times to put their game on ice. Losing pitcher Johnny Johnson walked three, had three errors behind him and gave up a double to Tommy Durdin and a triple to Don Hicks in the disastrous seventh.

His teammates had pushed ahead in their half of the sixth with four runs on five base hits, but Mac McElroy got three straight batters to fly out in the seventh, ending the game. McElroy gave up 10 hits, walked one and struck out five.


An ordnance collected 13 hits in their runaway with squadron 12. Winning pitcher Sam Ridgeway allowed but three hits in the game that was called at the end of five because of the 10-run lull.

The intramural athletic barbecue will be held in the Grove at 6 p.m. Thursday. Intramural officers will be awarded the clasps and managers will receive sweaters and watches.

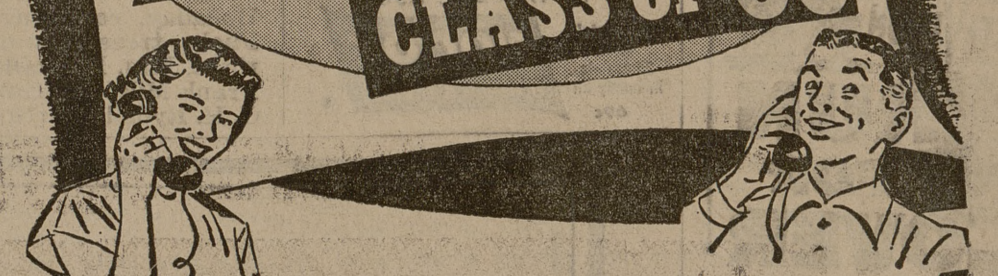
Seniors Should Leave Address

Graduating seniors who wish to have their Aggiland '55 mailed to them when it is published must leave a mailing fee with the student publications office before they leave, said Ross Strader, manager of student publications.

The mailing fee will be 50 cents for Texas address, 75 cents for addresses in other states, and \$1 for foreign addresses.



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