

Gophers Invade A&M

Coach Tom Chandler's Aggie baseball team opens a three-game series with the University of Minnesota Gophers on Kyle Field with a doubleheader this afternoon and a single game Thursday starting at 3 p.m.

The Aggies have compiled a 5-0 record this spring and have posted a 1-0 mark in SWC. A&M downed the SMU Mustangs Saturday on Kyle Field, 7-2.

Chandler's pitching corps has been much improved over last season mostly due to the sophomore chunkers — Chuch McGuire, Richard Beller and Johnny Crain. Through 11½ innings, Beller has a respectable 1.63 earned run average and McGuire has posted a 2.22 era in 16 innings.

Top sluggers for the Aggies have been shortstop Dave Johnson, third sacker Jack Singley and first baseman-left fielder Frank Stark.

Stark is leading with a .400 batting average followed by Johnson with a .357 average.

Minnesota Coach Dick Siebert is faced with a re-building job this season and the annual spring training trip through Texas will be substantial to the Gophers.

The Gophers will play Texas Lutheran, Texas, A&M and Sam Houston in their tour of the state. In their first two games this week, the Gophers downed TLC, 4-0, and edged the Longhorns, 8-7.

The Aggies and Gophers split two games last spring.

A&M will travel to Fort Worth Saturday for a SWC match with the TCU Horned Frogs. TCU dropped their opener to Rice and now stand 0-1 in the SWC.

Aggie Netters Blast Saint Edwards, 5-1

Coach Omar Smith's Aggie tennis team won three singles and a pair of doubles matches to take a 5-1 victory over Saint Edwards University in Austin in its home courts Monday.

The results:
Singles: Carroll Kell, A&M, defeated Dan Dwyer, 6-2, 6-0; Ray Salazar, A&M, defeated Ray Kortton, 6-0, 6-1; Jerry Foster, A&M, defeated Earl Daniel, 6-2, 6-4, and Jerry Bryan, Saint Edwards, defeated Doug Sassman, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4.

Doubles: Sassman-Kell defeated Dwyer-Bryan, 6-0, 6-3, and Salazar-Foster defeated Kortton-Daniel, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3.



John Collins

John Collins, the versatile track man from Liberty, is one of the stars of Coach Charlie Thomas' Fish track team. Collins specializes in the hurdles, high jump and the mile relay. The Fish engage in their first meet of the spring Friday on Kyle Field with Texas, Rice and Baylor.

'A' LaGrone Cited With Best Guards

He was born in Deadwood, Tex., but Walter Aaron LaGrone has been anything but that to Aggie football teams.

"A" for Aaron as he is called by his team mates, got his grid start at Carthage High School, only 20 miles from the Sabine River bottom farm where Mr. and Mrs. Chesley LaGrone became the parents of a boy on March 21, 1941.

The football career extended to A&M where Walter was a starter at various times during his freshman, sophomore and junior seasons and looms as a possible opener for Coach Hank Faldberg's Aggies next season.

"There is no 'deadwood' where Walter is concerned, he's a hustler and has proved one of our better guards during spring training," Aggie line coach Craig Randall said.

LaGrone is one of several senior football players selected by the A&M coaching staff as "the best in spring training."

"A" knows his football plays and he knows his family history — at least the history as it concerns his beloved Panola County area. Farmers they were and farmers

they still are in the same way where Sabine River overflows made the soil fertile. Chesley LaGrone has been employed in Carthage for several years, but an old homestead is still at the wood, occupied by Walter's father.

Thirteen schools offered LaGrone football scholarships upon graduation from high school. Walter spurned all but the A&M assistant Elmer Smith.

"My interest in A&M goes to the time when my brother planned to come to school but got married instead. I thought I'd like A&M, and I Walter explains.

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Aggie-Ex Wins 1st Golf Meet

Bobby Nichols, an Aggie-ex golfer and '58 graduate of A&M, picked up his first professional golf tournament, the \$20,000 Saint Petersburg Open, as he turned in an 8-under par 64.

Nichols, a native of Louisville, Ky., but playing out of Midland, Tex., finished with a four-round total of 272 and won \$2,800 for the victory.

The 25-year-old long driver was noted for his outstanding play on the links while at A&M and was the number one player for the Aggies.

Frank Boynton of Corpus Christi won second place in the tourney as he finished with 274.

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