Staples Leads Hitting

By JOHN PLATZER

Joe Staples, A&M's senior catcher who has made all-Southwest Conference both his sophomore and junior years, is the official 1968 SWC batting champion with a .391 mark.

Staples' bat paced Coach Tom Chandler's squad to a conference leading .296 team mark. This average was 20 points above Texas Christian University's .276 mark, which was good for second. Texas University, which will represent the conference in the NCAA playoffs, finished third with a .259 average.

Despite playing fewer games than Baylor and Texas Tech, the than Bylor and Texas Tech, the Aggies scored more runs than any other school. A&M runners crossed the plate 115 times during conference play, while TCU scored 100 runs and Texas had 90.

Only TCU, with 170 hits, collected more safeties than the Aggies' 145 total. TCU had the advantage of 125 extra at-bats.

Staples tied for the SWC individual lead in runs with 16, along with Dave Elmendorf and Bob Long, both of A&M, and Dick Turner, Ed Driggers and Jeff Newman of TCU.

Elmendorf, the Aggie's freshman outfield star, paced the conference hitters in runs batted in, with 21, a lead of 5 over his nearest competitor, Newman.

Three Aggies besides Staples topped the .300 mark in SWC play. Elmendorf hit .364, while Terry Dailey hit .340 and Bob Long .328. Bob Arnold just missed the magic level with a .293 average.

Rick Schwartz was the Aggies' busiest hurler in conference, pitching 37.2 innings. During the time he posted a 3-2 record, with a 2.39 earned run average. He recorded 35 strikeouts and 19 walks.

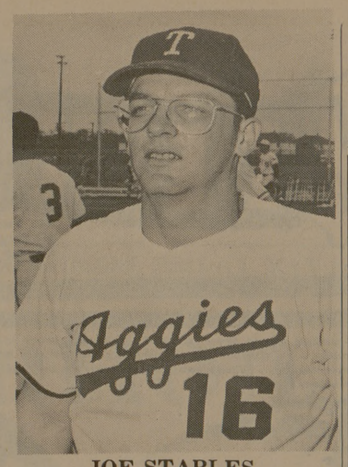
Rocky Thompson was the team's most effective pitcher with a 2.12 ERA while posting a 3-1 record. Dave Benesh had a 2.57 ERA and a 2-0 won-lost mark.

The SWC pitchers were paced by Baylor's John Bevil, who defeated the Aggies twice to take them out of the championship race. Bevil posted a 1.15 ERA while recording a 4-3 record.

A&M and TCU were the only conference teams to lose just one series during SWC play. TCU lost all three of its games against the Aggies while Chandler's squad lost both their contests against Baylor. Texas, which won the conference with a 12-4 record, lost its season series to both TCU and A&M. TCU was second with a 13-5 record and A&M was third at 10-5.

Aggies also paced the conference in homeruns and triples.

Elmendorf, currently participating in football spring practice, led the long-ball hitters with five homers, while Long, also currently involved in football, was the leader in triples with three. TCU's Driggers paced the SWC in doubles with seven.



JOE STAPLES
The Aggies' all-SWC catcher, from Houston, finished the 1968 Southwest Conference baseball season with a .391 mark, tops in the SWC.

MSC Table Tennis LoopBeingFormed

Harry Teng took first place in the First Annual Table Tennis Tournament in the Memorial Student Center recently.

Sam Rehim took the tournament's second spot, while Frank Storey finished third and Jim Cain, fourth.

Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded the first three places in the tournament.

At present, a table tennis league for A&M is being formed, with the intent of eventually competing with other Southwest Conference schools.

The tables for the competition were in the basement of the MSC.

LET THE BALL ROLL

Atlanta Brave catcher Bob Uecker, discussing how to catch the knuckleball in the current issue of SPORT Magazine, says: "Just wait until the ball stops rolling. Then pick it up."

Aggie Gymnasts Take 4th Place

Perry Lee Reeves, a freshman from the Washington, D. C. area, won third place in the long horse competition to pace the Aggie gymnastics team at the Gulf AAU Gymnastics Championship meet in Huntsville last weekend.

A&M recorded 65.87 team points to finish fourth behind host school Sam Houston, L. D. Bell High School of Hurst and Odessa College. Sam Houston's winning point total was 156.81, while Bell had 142.07 and Odessa scored 140.95.

"I thought that the team performed well under the circumstances," Lindy Baer, coach and club sponsor, said.

The circumstances concerned A&M having only one performer entered in four events, while each of the other schools had a number of different entries in each event. Besides the four teams, a number of individual performers from throughout the Southwest were entered in the two-day tounament.

Reeves took home the third-place trophy in his event by chalking up an 8.56 score out of a possible 9.5. Besides the long horse, Reeves competed in the vaulting, parallel bars and floor exercise events.

The AAU championship was the second official competition of the year for the young Aggie team. They lost a dual meet with Texas earlier in the season and have participated in several joint meets with other schools in practice sessions.

Club president is Mickey Stratton, who competed in the six international events: parallel bars, side horse, floor exercises, horizonttal bars, rings and vaulting.

Other members entered in the Huntsville meet were Rex Stratton in the parallel bars, Barrett Smith on the still rings, Patrick Scott in the floor exercises and tumbling and Bill Wood on the trampoline.

The lone female on the team, Evelyn Marshall, competed in the balance beam and floor exercise events.

Baer, an instructor in the A&M Physical Education Department, announced the club will sponsor a gymnatic clinic in G. Rollie White Coliseum this summer. The program has been formed and dates and arrangements for the summer program will be announced later.

CALIFORNIA CREW WINDS UP THIS WAY
Varsity shell is swamped near start of 2,000-meter race of Redwood City, Calif., and California crewmen struggle in water. Stanford crew, the opponent, managed to negotiate the full distance with four men rowing, four bailing, while California crewmen, rescued aboard press boat, watched. No winner was declared. (AP Wirephoto)

Littler And Player Tops At Colonial

FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP) — Gene Littler and Gary Player clipped two shots from par with 68s Wednesday and shared first place in a pro-am preceding the Colonial National Invitation Golf Tournament.

Littler, eagling the tough par 4 seventh by holding a three-iron from 185 yards out, tacked together a 33-35 over the par 35-35-70 Colonial course.

Player had a 34-34-68 and said the greens were "playing tough" but otherwise the course was in beautiful shape. He and Littler won $462.50 each.

Former Colonial champion Billy Casper was the only other player among the 60 pros participating in the pro-am to break par, carding a one-under-par 69. He earned $375.

Call 822-1441
Allow 20 Minutes
Carry Out or Eat-In
THE PIZZA HUT
2610 Texas Ave.

COLLEGE GRADUATES
CONGRATULATIONS
Now, HOUSTON is the place to go. So, for that challenging and profitable career position, try "HOUSTON'S EMPLOYMENT HEADQUARTERS"
Shamrock Colleens
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE TEMPORARY SERVICE
Visit or write either office
Downtown — 1200 Travis St. Rm. 2334
Southwest — 3411 Richmond Ave. Rm. 103

C&S Sales & Service
The Radiator Shop
1308 CAVITT
BRYAN, TEXAS
822-3298
Major Company Credit Cards Accepted.
Same Day Service
15% Discount With This Ad.

READ BATTALION CLASSIFIEDS

Ride WIDE with Firestone
SUPER SPORTS 100
HIGH PERFORMANCE NEW TREADS
RETREADS ON SOUND TIRE BODIES OR ON YOUR OWN TIRES
SUP-R-TUF RUBBER — the same high quality tread rubber used in new Firestone tires.
BUILT WIDE — for better all-around handling and improved traction.
"QUICK" LOOK — built wide with golden stripe styling for greater eye appeal.
WIDE
AS LOW AS $19.68 F70-14 (7.75-14) PLUS 61¢ Fed. excise tax and trade-in tire of same size off your car.
WHITEWALLS
Other sizes proportionately low priced
NO MONEY DOWN
Take months to pay!
Credit established in minutes
NATIONWIDE GUARANTEE
No-Limit on MILES...
No-Limit on MONTHS
Our retreads, identified by medallion and shop mark, carry this FULL LIFETIME GUARANTEE against defects in workmanship and materials and all normal road hazard injuries encountered in everyday passenger car use for the life of the tread design in accordance with terms of our printed guarantee. Price of replacement prorated on original tread depth wear and based on Firestone adjustment price for replacement retread at time of adjustment. Firestone adjustment prices are intended to, but may not, represent approximate current average selling prices and are subject to change without notice.
DRIVE IN TODAY!
You're the winner when you buy from the Firestone Safe Tire man in the checkered shirt
Super Sports "100" — Firestone TM
Priced as shown at Firestone Stores; competitively priced at Firestone Dealers and at all service stations displaying the Firestone sign.

PICK A MOWER-PICK A PRICE
18" ROTARY MOWER $41.68 Grass catcher only $6.95 extra
A rugged, economically priced rotary mower featuring a dependable 3 H.P. engine, instant-action recoil starter and adjustable cutting height.
19" DELUXE THRIFTI-CUT $51.68 Grass catcher only $6.95 extra
Featuring the vertical pull "Side-Winder" starter plus built-in engine primer for easier, quicker starting. 4-cycle, 3 H.P. engine and 5-position fingertip cutting height adjustment.
22" FAIRLAWN® $61.68 Grass catcher only $6.95 extra
A rugged, durable mower featuring a reinforced steel deck, Briggs and Stratton 3 H.P. engine, easy-spin recoil starter, 5-position fingertip cutting height adjustment, and visual oil gauge.
20" DELUXE SAFETY $81.68 With Grass Catcher
All the features of the above mower (8-D-443) PLUS — easy-wind automatic starter with safety handle release, ball-bearing wheels, easy fingertip height adjustment.
FIRESTONE UNI-CHARGE NO MONEY DOWN · MONTHS TO PAY— FIRESTONE UNI-CHARGE

PHILCO SPACE MATE AIR CONDITIONER
IDEAL FOR BEDROOMS
$10.00 PER MO. NO MONEY DOWN
•5000 BTU/HR capacity cools rooms as large as 15 x 20 Ft.
•Easy installation
•Adjustable thermostat can be set at the temperature you want
•Dehumidifies as it cools
•Operates on regular house voltage

20-10-5 LAWN FOOD
FEEDS 5,000 SQ. FT.
•Non-burning high analysis
•5,000 square feet coverage
•Feeds grass for months
$1.99 LIMIT 2
Additional bags $2.99
6-Q-800

FREE
Burpeeana GIANT ZINNIAS
50¢ Package
No Cost or Obligation

FIRESTONE STORES
TEXAS AVE. & POSTOFFICE ST. — BRYAN, TEXAS

AIRLINE Reservations and Tickets At No Extra Cost . . . . Free Ticket Delivery . . . . 30 Day Charge Account . . . Bonded ASTA Agent
MEMBER AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TRAVEL AGENTS ASTA
Call Beverley Braley . . . Tours . . . Travel
MSC TRAVEL OFFICE 823-0961