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Ag Nine Drops Two Games Off SWC Pace

A pair of losses to Texas Christian in Fort Worth this past weekend has dropped the Aggies two full games out of the lead in the Southwest Conference baseball chase.

Coach Tom Chandler's base-batters split a doubleheader with

the Horned Frogs Friday and then lost a single game Saturday. TCU won Friday's opening game 7-6 and Saturday's contest 10-2 while the Aggies took Friday's second game 8-5.

THE AGGIES are now 10-2 for the season and 4-2 in SWC action. Texas leads the conference with a 6-0 mark followed by Rice with a 4-0 record. Following A&M in the SWC race are Texas Tech (2-1), TCU (2-4), Baylor (1-5) and Southern Methodist (0-7).

After jumping away to a seemingly safe 5-0 lead in the first game of the series, the Aggies had the roof cave in on them. A pair of errors paved the way as

TCU roared back in the sixth inning for five runs to tie the game.

A&M, which had taken the initial lead on a two-run homerun by Pete Maida in the second and a three-run blast by Bob Arnold in the fifth, got their third homerun of the game to take a 6-5 lead in the top of the ninth. Dave Elmendorf, A&M sophomore outfielder, had the ninth-inning clout.

TCU CAME back in the bottom of the inning to work Aggie relief pitcher Walter Varvel for a walk with the runner moving to second on a sacrifice.

Varvel got Jeff Newman on strikes for the second out but a walk to Bill Ferguson put two runners on base. Rick Rickard then lined a hit to left center to drive home both TCU runs.

The Aggies 12-hit attack was paced by Boyd Hadaway with three and Arnold with two.

COACH CHANDLER'S base-batters struck for eight runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings to come from behind to record their win. The Aggies picked up three in both the fourth and sixth and three in the fifth.

TCU which led 2-0 and 4-3 could never catch the Aggies after the fifth inning. Hadaway and Arnold each had two hits in the game for A&M while Eddie Vaughn contributed a two-run pinch-hit homer.

DAVE BENESH used strong eight-hit pitching to record the win while Stan Chick came on to supply the needed relief in the seven-inning game. Chick came on in the final inning to stop a TCU rally with the help of a double play started by third baseman Mike DeNiro.

In the third game of the series, it was all TCU as the Horned Frogs erupted for four runs in the first inning and were never headed.

BOB LONG started the game for A&M with a first inning homerun but that was about all the offense the Aggies could muster for the day. They did score another run in the third and had two hits by Mike DeNiro but it was all for naught.

TCU, which manhandled the Aggie pitching for 12 hits, added to their total with three in the third, two in the fourth and one

in the eighth.

BOB SHAW relieved TCU starter Rod Monahan in the second and pitched one-hit shutout ball the rest of the way.

The Aggies are off this week and return to the field Monday in San Antonio against St. Mary's. A&M plays Notre Dame in San Antonio Tuesday and then has a weekend SWC series at home against Texas Tech.



IT'S GONE

Dave Elmendorf connects for a ninth inning homerun against TCU in the first game of Friday's doubleheader. Elmendorf's blast put A&M in front 6-5 but TCU came back in the bottom of the inning to win 7-6. (Photo by Mike Wright)

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Water Polo Match Set Here Tonight

The Aggie water polo team has a match with the Des Moines YMCA team tonight at 7:30 in the P. L. Downs Natatorium.

Last season Des Moines was the national YMCA water polo champion.

A&M will be using the match to get ready for the National Invitational Tournament in New York City on April 17-19.

A&M Golfers Increase Grip On SWC Lead

The Aggie golf team defeated Texas Tech 5½-½ here Saturday to move into firm control of first place in the Southwest Conference with an 11-1 mark.

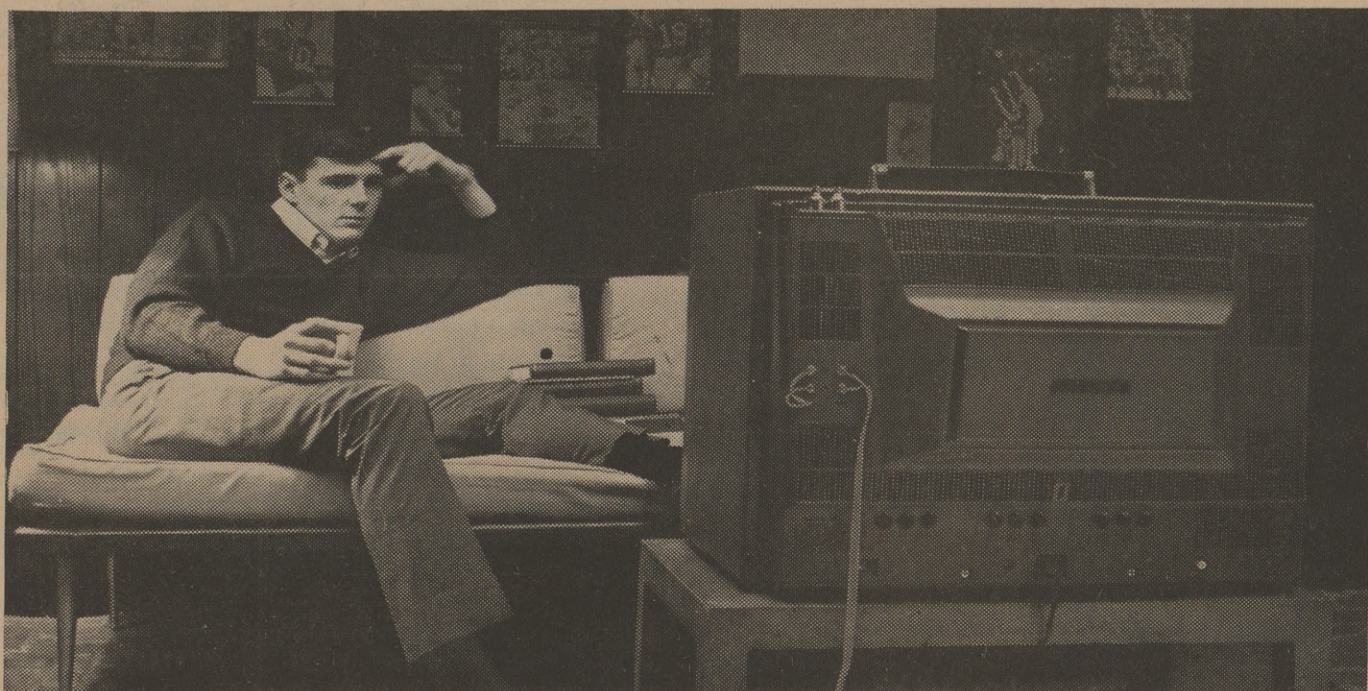
The Aggies were paced by Richard Ellis, who fired a two-under-par 68 and Reggie Majors with a 69. Tech had beaten Texas 4½-1½ earlier in the season while the Aggies had disposed of SMU 5½-½. A&M's next golf match is April 11 against Arkansas in Arkansas.

Jan Stenerud of the Kansas City Chiefs scored 129 points by kicking last season. He made good on 30 of 40 field goals attempts.

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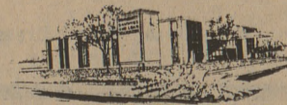
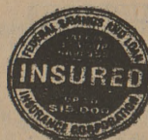
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