aggies Thump Hooters Twice To Increase SWC Lead

By Richard Campbell Battalion Sports Editor

Doug Rau gave the Texas Aggies all the incentive they needed Monday afternoon by turning in a sterling pitching performance to help them sweep a doubleheader from the Rice Owls and thereby put a tighter hold on the first place slot in the Southwest Conference baseball race.

The slender junior from Columbus, Tex., blended a good fast ball with a wicked curve to put the Owls down, 4-0, in the first contest, a seven inning affair. He raised his season mark to 6-0 and kept his perfect conference record with his fourth straight victory and second shutout in SWC play.

Rau struck out 11 Hooters and surrendered no walks as he outlasted Rice starter David Pettit, who picked up his first defeat in

Gentlemens

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three decisions. Both teams were coasting along not able to get to the opposing hurler until the fourth when A&M's R. J. Englert singled up the middle, stole second, and went to third on a wild throw by the Rice catcher Len Shelby. Aggie catcher Billy Hodge singled him hom next with what would prove to be the winning margin but A&M was not finished. After Dave Elmendorf fanned, Boyd Hadaway singled to move Hodge to second and Chris Sans tripled both of them home to give the Aggies an 3-0 advantage. Raley struck out and then Danny Ragland singled to left to bring Sans home with the

Rice never really threatened Rau from there and he was tagged hard only once, a long double by the Owls' Dick Fuqua. Ragland with two for three and

Country

Squire

to whiff the last two batters after he allowed runners to reach second and third with only one out. In the bottom of the first, Butch Ghutzman and Englert drew walks off Rice hurler Scott Wise, who also had his problems, especially in the control department. Elmendorf hit a ground ball to the shortstop, who tossed to second on the first leg of an attempted double play but the second sacker uncorked a bad throw to first and Ghutzman scored on the error to put A&M ahead, 1-0.

hitter, with a .500 mark led

The second game was not as

secure as the first, but the out-

come was the same as Dave Ben-

esh, playing despite a broken

nose which was fractured Sun-

day, set the Owls down, 3-2. Ben-

but he pitched well when the need

In the first, he reached back

arose and it did several times.

was not partcularly sharp

A&M's seven-hit attack.

The third inning was the same old story for the senior A&M chunker as Shelton Kaufman singled, was sacrificed to second and moved to third on a bloop single to left by Fuqua. David Hilton drew a walk to load the bases with only one out. But again Benesh was up to the test as he

GolfersDumpHogs

The Texas A&M golf team defeated Arkansas 5-1 here Saturday afternoon but the A&M tennis team was not as fortunate as they lost two of three matches at the Oklahoma City Invitational Tournament this past weekend.

The win increased the Aggie golfers mark to 121/2-51/2 and kept in the thick of the fight for the Southwest Conference crown which they are defending.

The Aggie netters bowed to the host team Oklahoma City and West Texas State before winning over Wichita State.

A&M travels to Fort Worth for a tennis match with TCU Wednesday while the golfers are at Lubbock to play Texas Tech

Englert, the conference's leading got Eddie Otwell to fly out to cenhitter, with a .500 mark led ter and Alexander to fly out to ton. The Aggies came back in the to center. ter and Alexander to fly out to nally scored in the fifth as Randy

ton. The Aggies came back in the Hodge walked, moved to third on Hadaway's sacrifice and a wild



AGGIE HURLER—Charlie Kelley throws his way out of a jam in the eighth inning to save the second game for starter Dave Benesh. The Aggies swept two from the Owls and will face them in a single game this afternoon at 3. (Photo by Mike Wright)

Ags Looking Good In Football Drills

a lot more good than bad" in their first controlled scrimmage, resume spring football workouts this afternoon.

Coach Gene Stallings, after studying movies of last Saturday afternoon's controlled scrimmage, said: "We have a lot of good, young potential and I think we're

Competition is hot and close at virtually every position this spring and Saturday's scrimmage indicated that there isn't as much difference between so-called first and second units as there has been in the past.

Sophomores-to-be Lex James and Brad Dusek are the front running candidates for the vital quarterback slot and neither has moved in front of the other thus

The Aggies missed one workout last week, due to wet grounds, but Stallings said he would not try to make it up this week. The Aggies will stay with their fourdrills-per-week schedule this

Among the players who graded well in Saturday's battle were defensive guard Van Odom, linebacker Mike Lord, defensive back Ed Ebrom, offensive tackle Buster Callaway and offensive right halfback Clifford Thomas. James, Dusek, Joe Mac King,

Kyle Gary and Ricky Spencer worked at the quarterback slot. Spencer, a diminutive 5-6, 155pounder, led the Whites to one touchdown against the top Maroon defense. He hit split end Mike Dorough with a 66-yard pass play that carried to the Maroon's 14 and then Spencer scored from the three on a quarterback keeper.

Maroon fullbacks Garry Davis and Doug Neill each scored a touchdown on short plunges and Lord scored on a 25-yard run after intercepting a pass. Defensive back Mike Bellar scored on a 50-yard run for the Whites after intercepting a wild pitchout by James.

There are 29 returning lettermen out for spring drills and 25 of them are juniors. The four seniors are baseballer and All-America candidate Dave Elmendorf, defensive lineman Dale Watts, offensive guard Winston Beam, and punter-split end Jimmy Sheffield.

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Sans scored later when Ghutzman beat out an infield hit to the shortstop to put A&M ahead 3-1. In the eighth, Shelby drove in George Davis with a double to make the count 3-2 and Coach Tom Chandler brought in reliever Charles Kelley to cool the Owls down. He did and Benesh picked

The double win brought the Aggies' season mark to 17-4 and 8-0 in conference play. They the Owls today on Kyle Field ! 3 p.m. for the final game of the series. Bruce Katt is the probable

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Odom Anchors Defensive Line

A year ago in spring training, then shifted to guard last spring Van Odom was an aspiring freshman candidate for a position in Texas A&M's defensive line.

Today, he is the ranking veteran among the defensive line prospects in the Aggies spring training camp. Van won a starting berth last

fall as a sophomore and teamed with senior Lynn Odom to form one of the rare brother combinations in SWC football. Today, Van and end Wayne

Wheat are about the only regulars returning in the defensive front alignment. Lynn played out his eligibility,

as did tackle Billy Bob Barnett

and end Jim Piper. And, Mike DeNiro died in an auto mishap last January. Approaching his junior season, Van Odom figures to be one

of the top defensive linemen, not only in the Southwest Conference but in the nation. At 6-0 and 220, Van is not tre-

mendously large, but he is solidly built, hard as steel and hits with authority. Back at Corsicana High School,

Van played fullback and defensive tackle and he performed at both places so well that he made all-zone at both spots. He played in the defensive line, mostly at tackle, for the A&M Fish and

Ags Take Third, **Host Meet Here**

Texas A&M's record-shattering track team makes its final home appearance of the season Saturday night when it hosts Arkansas, Rice and TCU in a quadrangular meet at Kyle Field. Field events will get under way at 6 p.m. and running events

will start at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for high school students and younger. A&M faculty and staff will be admitted on their book covers and A&M students on their activity tickets.

The Aggies boast a world champion in Curtis Mills, the ace quartermiler who has the world's fastest time of 44.7 in his spe-Also, the 440-yard relay unit

of Scotty Hendricks, Curtis Mills, Marvin Mills and Rockie Woods, have the fastest time in the nation this season, a 39.7 in the Texas Relays two weeks ago.

Last weekend, at Houston, Rice and A&M finished second and third, respectively, behind Texas in a triangular meet. Coach Thomas said he didn't expect to win the meet because Marvin Mills was out of action and he didn't enter Curtis in anything except the 440 relay and the 220

Competition is fierce t ward ea: spring and Van has some water, o strong prospects to battle be the cra: fore claiming a starting spot up splashdo front.

Among the defensive line on didates are: James Dubcak, & more con and 232; Wayne Wheat, 6-5 and 229; Boice Best, 6-0 and 22; make it Butch Kamps, 6-2 and 237; Ralp Sacra, 6-5 and 217; Barb His nant, 6-1 and 204; Max Bird, 6 ney, with and 210; Tommy Deaton, 5to depen and 198; Greg Hall, 6-0 and 20 Dale Watts, 6-5 and 216; 0sca Castillo, 5-10 and 202; Eddi Hooper, 6-0 and 210 and Garlan entry wh Childers, 5-11 and 208.

It'll take a neckuva player dislodge Van Odom from the starting unit, though.



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