#### Wednesday, May 13, 1970

# Menke lead baseballers will be strong again next year Astros past Dodgers, &

## **By CLIFFORD BROYLES**

### **Battalion Sports Editor**

The Texas Aggies will be back. Yes Coach Tom Chandler's Aggie baseball club which just completed the best season win wise in A&M history will be back nearly intact and probably stronger.

Only three seniors played their last game with the Aggies against Texas last weekend.

Dave Benesh ended his career with a 6-4 mark after being named to the All-SWC team last year with a 5-1 record and a 1.70 earned run average that was the third best in the conference.

Benesh teamed with another of the seniors, Jim Raley when the two played for St. Thomas high school in Houston.

Raley who had problems with the bat hitting only .195 this year was a valuable asset in the Aggie defense, one of the big differences between the Aggies of 1969 that had a 7-8 conference record and the 1970 team that lost only 9 games in 34 starts all year.

He committed only 3 errors in 92 chances and at times his accurate throws and flawless fielding made him seem like a polished machine.

Boyd Hadaway one of the team leaders in home runs with five and runs batted in with 22. The silent senior finished his career with a .259 average drawing six walks in the Texas series.

The Aggies hopefully will have ample depth to replace Benesh as they have some good strength returning at the position including several junior college transfers who didn't get a chance to start because of the effectiveness of Benesh and Doug Rau.

Paul Czerwinski from San Jacinto, Pat Jamison from Blinn and Hardy Frazier from Panola all have experience as starters from their junior college days but only Frazier was given a starting opportunity.

Frazier had a 2-0 record with a 2.73 e.r.a. and Czerwinski a 1-1 ledger with a 1.59 e.r.a. Jamison who did not start a game had a 1-1 record with three saves.

Charles Kelley will be at the front of the line for a starting job next season after finishing up this season without allowing an earned run in 19% innings. His four saves was the team high and after allowing an unearned run against Sam Houston in the Aggies first game of the year

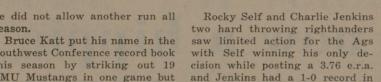
# Attendance up this year for Brewers

MILWAUKEE (AP) - The love affair between Milwaukee basehe did not allow another run all season.

Southwest Conference record book this season by striking out 19 SMU Mustangs in one game but suffered from arm trouble in the 7 innings.



latter part of the season finishing with a 3-1 record and 4.26 e.r.a. as a sophomore.



But the Aggies still have one more returnee, a candidate for All-America honors, a sure bet for the All-SWC team and a top candidate for the e.r.a. crown in the conference, although official statistics have not been released, in junior southpaw Doug Rau.

Rau went into his final appearance of the year with the fourth best e.r.a. in the nation 0.26 but control bothered him for the first time this season and allowed five runs but still finished with a 0.86 showing.

Catcher Billy Hodge was a pleasant surprise for the Aggies hitting .340 cracking five home runs and leading the team with 25 rbi's. A year ago as a sophomore Hodge had batted only .171 but stepped into do a king sized job in his first year as a starter.

First baseman Chris Sans and the Southwest Conference batting left fielder R. J. Englert were

Rocky Self and Charlie Jenkins also surprises and any team that although official statistics have wins 25 games must have its not been released. share. Sans who hit .220 as a Freshman batted .282 and was well over the .300 mark until hitting a late season slump against TCU and Texas. Englert, is the

RALEY

undeclared batting champion of champion with a .400 average

Dave Elmendorf, did his usual steady job in center combining his speed and defense with a dangerous bat he hit .284 and knocked in 16 runs. He stole 13 bases to lead the club in that department.

Butch Ghutzman, who proved his value in the opener of the Texas series when he scored four runs in four times at bat, what a good leadoff man is supposed to do hit .261 while holding down second base for the Aggies.

Third baseman Danny Ragland came on strong late in the season to finish with a .245 mark after struggling most of the season. The Aggie bench was a essential part also with Rusty Howard and Larry Smith filling in in the outfield and both will be top candidates for the rightfield spot vacated by Boyd Hadaway. Howard batted .400 in part time ac-

tion. Jim Sampson could cause a shake up next year because the junior college transfer from Blinn batted only 24 times but hit .333 including 3 home runs and 7 runs batted in.

David Van Houten filling in for Hodge at catcher and pinch hitting when called upon hit .286 and batting .333 before the final series.

THE BATTALION

The shortstop spot is unsettled on, however, Ronnie LaGrone, the





BENESH

only returning prospect for that his seventh home run of the position had a .091 average but son extending his hitting s

more's ground out.

ny Mota with the first run the third, Parker walked Willie Crawford singled hi third. Wilson, who won 16 ga last year but had arm to

son.

all spring, then balked to Parker score and send Cm to second. Crawford then ng the third and scored on Ted

LOS ANGELES (A) -

Menke drove in four runs w

home run and a single and

Rader broke a 3-3 tie in the

enth inning with a solo hom

power Houston to an 8-3

Tuesday night over Los Ar

and enable Don Wilson

cord his first victory of th

Menke's first-inning home

losing pitcher Alan Foster

lowed a single by Jim Wyn

a two-out error by Bill G

kewitz which allowed

Davis to reach first base.

Wes Parker singled home!

Vo

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sente

Rader opened the seventh

like Raley is great with the glove. " to 15 games.



ball fans and the Brewers is genuine, if not passionate.

After 10 home dates, the Brewers have drawn 107,702 fans, an average better than nine other major league cities and six other American League teams. Only Boston, Detroit, New York, California and Baltimore are averaging better than Milwaukee in the AL.

Milwaukee is 30,000 ahead of last season when the Brewers then the Pilots - drew 77,223 in the first 10 dates at Seattle.

Only five games — on four dates - have been played when the temperature climbed over 50 degrees.

Baseball fans here, hungry for a team ever since the Braves departed for Atlanta following the 1965 season, were rewarded with the Brewers only six days before the 1970 season was to open. Still, the team sold 4,000 season tickets.

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