

### Chandler Seeks Rest After Ups And Downs

# Baseball Ends Season Of Inconsistency

A&M baseball coach Tom Chandler plans on an intensive fishing campaign this summer. He needs it after the unusual, frustrating, and emotionally draining season just completed by his young team.

The 1973 season was like those good news-bad news jokes. Good news, the Aggies became the only team to win a series from the Kansas City Royals Baseball Academy in Sarasota, Fla., taking five of seven games. Bad news, neither the games, nor the statistics, count in the records. Good news, the Aggies won 19 and lost only nine games in the regular season. Bad news, eight of those nine losses were in Southwest Conference play.

There were highlights aplenty—the six-day trip to Florida, a no-hitter by Bobby Wittkamp against TCU, the first ever by an Aggie pitcher in SWC play, a one-hitter by Bobby Falcon

against league champion and No. 4 ranked Texas, and four-game sweeps against Iowa State and Minnesota.

There were thrills aplenty—exactly half of the games were decided by one run, and A&M won 10 of those 14. Five others were decided by two runs. Of eight SWC defeats, four were by one run and three by two runs.

The best news of all, for A&M, is that the entire starting lineup and the top three pitchers return next season.

Most improved honors go to second baseman Mike Schraeder and catcher Mike Frazier, both sophomores. Schraeder had never played secondbase in his life until moving over from shortstop 10 games into the season. He

made only one error in 18 games, and boosted his batting average from .176 last year to .306. Frazier took over as the No. 1 catcher and hit .333 after a .145 freshman year. Frazier led the team in hitting in SWC play with a .350 average and came up with several game-winning hits.

Falcon and Wittkamp came forth as bulwarks of the pitching

staff. A left from San Jacinto Junior College, Falcon finished with a 5-2 record and a phenomenal strikeout mark of 87 in 53 1/2 innings. In SWC play, he whiffed 66 in 40 1/2 innings. Wittkamp was 5-1 with a 2.90 ERA.

Other top players returning include firstbaseman Paul Miller (.300), shortstop David Buxkamper (.339), third baseman-centerfielder Jim Hacker (.270), left fielder Bill Raymer (.371), and right fielder Jim Bratsen (.292). Bratsen led the team in runs batted in with 18 and tied Schraeder for the homerun leadership with three.

The Aggies also return pitchers Jackie Binks (3-0), Clint Thomas, Jim Juhl, and David Lockett. Chandler hopes to recruit another infielder and a right-handed hitting outfielder to help the team next year.

## Rugby Team Takes Seventh In Golden Gate Tournament

By KEVIN COFFEY Sports Editor

A&M's Rugby Club traveled to San Francisco last weekend to find the country's finest rugby and came home bruised and battered but with a very respectable

2-2 record. The A&M Ruggers competed in the Golden Gate Invitational Tournament, an annual affair that invites only the top teams in the country.

The Aggies beat Irvine Coast

of California 28-0 in their first match and advanced into the winners' bracket of the 24-team competition.

Next they tried a group made up of USC and UCLA players and fell 13-3. "They were the biggest team we ever played," said Donnie Robertson. "We knew as much about rugby as any team there but we were tiny in comparison." Robertson said many of the teams had scrums averaging 245 pounds. The Ags weigh in at 200 pounds. "There were a lot of teams that had football players in off-season training on their squads," Robertson noted.

In the third game the Aggies faced California's North County Rugby Club and were shut out for the first time this season, 19-0.

In their tournament finale, A&M played Fresno, Cal., in the seventh place game. The contest resulted in a 6-6 tie but the Ags were awarded the seventh place trophy and another victory by winning a kicking contest.

"We traveled further to play than anyone there," said Robertson. The Aggies received \$1,500 from the Association of Former Students and \$1,500 from the Exchange Store fund to pay for transportation. Room and board came from their own pockets.

The Aggies have been invited to play in some of the top tournaments in the country during the 1973-74 season as a result of the trip.



HERE, I DON'T WANT IT seems to be the thoughts of a Kingsville Rugby Team member as he is about to be clobbered by light-shirted Aggies. The TAMU Rugby Club split four games last weekend at the Golden Gate Invitational Tournament in San Francisco. (Photo by Gary Baldasari)

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**Batting Record**

Player	G	Ab	R	H	RBI	Avg.
Frazier	11	40	6	14	7	.350
Hodges	7	3	2	1	0	.333
Aiterbury	5	6	3	2	1	.333
Buxkamper	14	43	4	14	5	.326
Raymer	11	28	5	9	3	.321
Schraeder	17	61	11	19	11	.311
Miller	17	59	13	18	5	.305
Hacker	17	57	13	16	4	.281
Bate	12	36	6	10	8	.278
Bratsen	16	46	6	11	14	.239
Tharmond	10	13	2	3	2	.231
Reinartz	15	37	4	7	5	.189
Woods	7	13	2	2	0	.154
Hawthorne	12	27	6	4	4	.148

  

**Pitching Record**

Pitcher	G	W	L	ERA	IP
Lockett	1	0	0	0.00	0
Wallace	1	0	1	0.00	1
Falcon	6	4	2	2.23	40 1/3
Jenkins	7	0	0	2.84	12 2/3
Wittkamp	6	2	1	2.95	39 2/3
Janda	5	1	2	3.85	4 2/3
Binks	6	2	0	3.91	25 1/3
Juhl	5	0	2	4.84	9 1/3
Thomas	2	0	0	5.45	3 1/3

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