

Still in running for SWC title

Baseballers sweep Houston

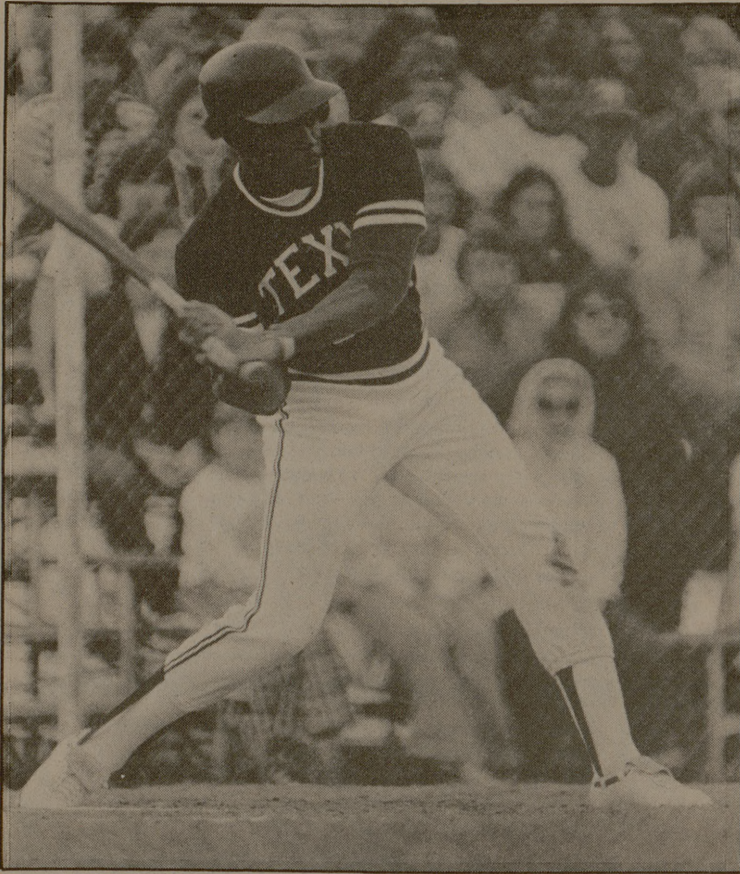


Photo by Jack Holm

Mike Frazier uncoils to connect on one of nine hits he made in the series.

By DAVID WALKER Staff Sports Writer The Texas Aggies entered last weekend's series against the University of Houston Cougars needing a sweep of the series to stay in the running for the Southwest Conference title. They got their sweep and they stayed in the running, but more important they just may have assured themselves of an NCAA playoff spot. The Aggies bounced the Cougars Friday 13-2 and swept the Saturday doubleheader 3-1 and 6-5. The second game went 10 innings.

The Aggies used their power in all three games against the Cougars getting six home runs in the three games. Bill Raymer got half of the six homers for the Ags two of which came in the opening game. The three wins stretched the Aggies' record to 24-4. Their conference mark is 12-3. The Texas Longhorns continue to lead the conference with an 18-0 mark. The Horns swept three from the Baylor Bears in Waco this weekend. The Horns take this week off from SWC play while the Ags host Texas Tech. In the first game of the Houston series the Aggies jumped on Hous-

ton pitchers for 10 runs in the first four innings to make a laughing for the home fans. The Aggies had four home runs and five doubles in the contest to batter three Houston pitchers. Raymer had two round trippers, one which landed in the second level walkway of Kyle Field. Mike Schraeder and Jim Bratsen each added a solo shot to the 17 hit attack. Clint Thomas went the distance for the Ags in picking up his fourth win of the season against two losses. The Saturday doubleheader was a bit tougher for the Ags. The Aggie pitching staff saw their seven complete game conference streak go by the wayside as Kirk Campbell was the hero for the Aggie moundsmen in both games coming in relief to save the first game and win the second game.

Campbell relieved starter Hoot Gibson in the first game and held the Cougars the last one and two thirds innings to give Gibson his seventh win of the year. He has only one loss. David Lockett was the starter for the Ags in the second game and was rolling along fine until the Houston seventh. The Aggies had a 5-0 lead going into the seventh thanks to another Raymer home run and an Al Thurmond blast over the center-field wall. That's when the Cougs got hot. They got a single run in the seventh and got to Lockett in the next inning for four runs to knot the score. Enter stopper Campbell to pitch two and two thirds scoreless innings as the Ags pulled it out in the bottom of the tenth. In that tenth inning the Aggies got the bases loaded and Jim Bratsen accounted for the winning run with a sacrifice fly scoring Mike Frazier from third.

Besides the three game sweep the Aggies had several outstanding individual performances. Centerfielder Frazier had nine hits in 12 times at bat for the Ags. He also had four stolen bases. The four steals give him nine for the year, six away from the school record 15. Left fielder Al Thurmond had five hits in eight trips to the plate. The Aggies take a day off from SWC action today hosting Pan American in a 2 p.m. doubleheader. Texas Tech comes to town for three games Friday and Saturday.

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE STANDINGS table with columns for CONFERENCE, ALL GAMES, and individual team records for Texas, TCU, Rice, Baylor, Arkansas, Texas Tech, Houston, and SMU.

Batt sports

Rockets, Knicks meet in playoffs

HOUSTON (AP)—The Houston Rockets make their first National Basketball Association playoff appearance Tuesday night by meeting the New York Knicks, playoff veterans who have ignored Houston's home court advantage this season. Houston had a 29-12 regular season record at Hofheinz Pavilion this season, but the Knicks won both of the games they played there. Houston finished its season at 41-41 last Wednesday but had to wait until Sunday to nail down second place in the Central Division when the Knicks took the wild card spot by defeating Buffalo and Cleveland last to Kansas City-Omaha. Zaid Abdul-Aziz, a reserve center, is the only Rocket with playoff experience. That was in 1970 at Milwaukee. With Bill Bradley and Walt Frazier in seven playoffs each, the Knicks have an overall total of 38 years of post-season experience. Rockets Coach John Egan is not discouraged over the knicks' sweep of their two regular-season games at Houston.

"I think the home court is the best thing we have going for us," Egan said. "In a short series, it could make the difference. I don't think it makes any difference in a seven-game series." Egan watched both New York and Cleveland on television Sunday but had to mow his lawn before he could do any celebrating or planning. "I've been on his back a week to mow the yard and I finally had to put my foot down," said wife Joan. "I told him he was going to have to get out there and mow Sunday because he's going to be so busy this week he won't have time." Egan said New York's defense against Buffalo was exceptional in the third quarter. "And the Knicks' backcourt just took over," he said. "They did a lot of one on one with their old pro, Walt Frazier, just going downcourt and shooting over the top. Then in the fourth quarter Earl Monroe picked it up and did the same thing." The Rockets got into the playoffs by winning three of their last four games. New York deadlocked with Cleveland at 40-42 by winning three of the last five while Cleveland was losing three out of four.

No. 1 units face off in initial scrimmage

By MIKE BRUTON Sports Editor The action at Kyle Field Saturday afternoon looked like the Texas A&M Demolition Derby as the No. 1 offensive and defensive units clashed in the first scrimmage of the 1975 spring football session. Head Coach Emory Bellard lined up the controlled scrimmage with the first units going against each other and their counterparts on the second units doing the same. Bellard said he was pleased with the effort and intensity of the players in the workout. The offense put their latest installations to the test for the first time and did well gaining 211 yards in 60 plays against A&M's highly respected defensive unit. Offensive Coordinator Tom Wilson said the main objective of this scrimmage was to see if the offense, "could stand toe-to-toe with the defense." The offense stood up to the defense very well barring two turnovers on interceptions and some mental mistakes. "We've got to elimi-

nate the bad play," said Wilson, referring to miscues that occurred in the scrimmage. Most of the mistakes were penalties and can be corrected with more practice. There was only one score the whole afternoon and it came on a 32-yard sprint by All-SWC halfback Bubba Bean. Bean's run completed an 80-yard drive engineered by quarterback Mike Jay, who is battling for the starting berth with David Walker. Bean was outstanding throughout the scrimmage leading all rushers with 124 yards on 23 carries. Fullback Bucky Sams had a combined total of 63 yards on 16 carries running for 22 with the first team and 41 with the backup unit. Skip Walker picked up ten yards in eight attempts and Ronnie Hubby, who made some fine runs in the workout, made 31 steps in seven tries. Both Walker and Jay ran and executed well at quarterback with the starting unit, with Walker gaining.

See GRID SCRIMMAGE, p. 8.

SFA leads LSC golf tournament

STEPHENVILLE, Tex. (AP)—Stephen F. Austin will be the team to catch Tuesday as the Lone Star Conference golf tour enters its third round of the spring here with Tarleton State as the host. The Lumberjacks have a combined total of 1,784 strokes for 108 holes, ten strokes ahead of Howard Payne. The conference determines its champion in a four-tournament series. SFA won the first tournament in Kingsville and Sam Houston State won the second in Alpine. Southwest Texas is in third place followed by Sam Houston, Sul Ross, Angelo State, Tarleton, East Texas and Texas A&I.

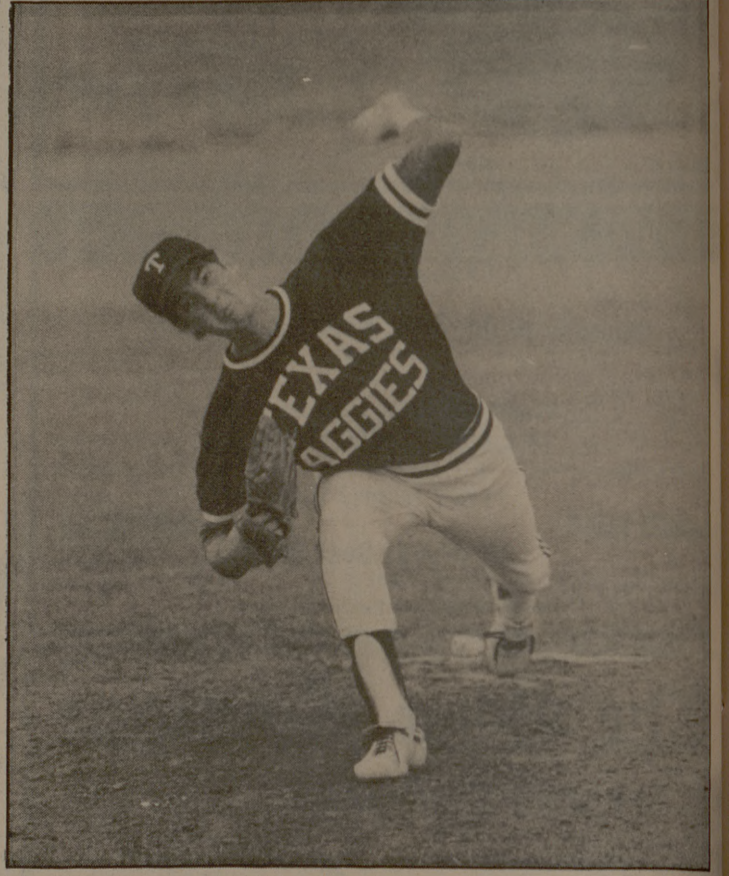


Photo by Jack Holm

James "Hoot" Gibson exhibits pitching form.

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