

Winning games at same time

Ag baseball squad closing in on 1974 record

By DAVID WALKER
Staff Sports Writer

The Texas Aggies are back to their old tricks. They're getting their team batting average close to last years conference leading .340 and they are winning lots of games.

The Aggies extended their current winning streak to 10 games by sweeping a three game set from the Houston Cougars last weekend.

The Aggies are now 24-4 for the season. The Aggies are three games down in the loss column to Texas and whether or not the Ags can catch Texas, they can assure themselves of an NCAA playoff berth by posting a strong season record.

Texas is taking the week off while the Ags are hosting the Texas Tech Red Raiders this weekend. After this weekend the Ags and Horns each have one series left before they

tangle in College Station April 25th and 26th. Texas plays TCU at Fort Worth next week and the Aggies travel to Rice.

Aggie bats boomed for the second SWC series in a row against the Cougars as they boosted their conference batting average to .337, just three points under last year's league leading .340 average. That .340 average is also the all-time high team

average in the SWC.

The big improvement in the team this year is on the mound where the staff earned run average is 2.22, the lowest for an A&M team in modern history. Of the four top pitchers, relief specialist Kirk Campbell is the leader with a 1.84 ERA and a 5-1 record. James "Hoot" Gibson, who

is undefeated in five SWC games, has a 1.91 ERA and a 7-1 record. David Lockett has a 2.01 ERA and a 6-0 mark while Clint Thomas is 4-2 with a 2.88 ERA.

The Aggies will have all four pitchers back next year as they are all juniors. The pitching rotation for the Tech series will have Thomas

starting the Friday game with Gibson and Lockett going in the Saturday doubleheader.

Two Aggies have batting averages over .400 with another seven hitting atop the .300 mark. Mike Frazier is the leading hitter for the season with a .436 average with Al Thurmond leading the Ags in SWC play

hitting at a .474 clip.

Comparing team statistics tell story for the 1975 Ags. The Aggie team batting average of .337 compared to their opponents .217, the Aggie team ERA of 2.22, against their foes 5.66 explains why the Ags are 24-4 and headed for an NCAA playoffs.



Shortstop David Buxkamper tries to get back on base.

Houston wins first round over New York, 99-84

HOUSTON (AP)—The youthful Houston Rockets, led by Calvin Murphy's 22 points outgunned playoff-wise New York in the fourth quarter and rolled to a 99-84 victory Tuesday night in the first game of their National Basketball Association first round playoff game.

The second game in the best-of-three series will be played Thursday in New York's Madison Square Garden.

The Rockets, in the playoffs for the first time ever, moved to a 46-39 halftime lead by outscoring the Knicks 8-0 over the final 2:27 of the

second quarter and Houston never trailed again.

Walt Frazier led the Knicks with 21 points and Earl Monroe had 13, but New York's leading scorers hit only 13 of 35 shots between them for a 37 per cent average.

The Knicks, making their ninth straight playoff appearance, pulled within 67-60 at the end of the third quarter. But then the Rockets, led by Mike Newlin and Ron Riley, put on a fourth-quarter scoring display that spurred the Rockets to a 17-point margin with 6:48 left in the game.

The Knicks edged to a 27-24 lead at the end of the first quarter but the cold-shooting New Yorkers missed several chances to pull farther ahead.

Midway through the first quarter New York missed a chance to take a six-point lead. The Knicks missed two of four free throws and then failed to convert on three straight shots after a steal.

With Rockets substitutes Riley, Gus Bailey and Steve Hawes all in the game, Houston ran off eight straight points in the final 2:27 of the game for its biggest lead of the half.

Batt sports

Dome celebrates birthday number ten

By NICK VOINIS
Staff Sports Writer

Happy Birthday, dear Astrodome, Happy Birthday to you! Houston's spectacular all-purpose stadium celebrates its first decade of operation tonight as the Astros host the Braves from Atlanta.

It hardly seems that long when its doors opened on April 9, 1965 as the New York Yankees invaded the premises only to lose to the hometown boys 2-1 in the first indoor major league baseball game. Governor John Connally threw out the first ball and Yankee great Mickey Mantle hit the first Astrodome homerun.

Tonight the Astros, new uniforms and all, begin their tenth season of play in the glass-bubble with special ceremonies including a homerun hitting show, featuring none other than Mantle himself. Mantle will be facing two of Houston's 1965 pitchers, if he succeeds by putting one in the stands, the fan lucky enough to catch it will be awarded two 1975 season tickets. Birthday cake and pennants will be given to fans attending the game.

During its ten years of existence, the Dome has seen many bright moments. The Astros entertained over 2.5 million fans during its inaugural season in the dome, with an additional 14.5 million since then.

On March 19, 1966 the revolutionary artificial surface, "Astroturf" was installed. Astroworld, the Dome's next-door neighbor amusement park, opened its doors on June 1, 1968, while the youngest member of the Astrodome family,

the Astrodome opened less than two months ago. The new arena will house the E-Z Riders, Houston's World Team Tennis entry.

Don Wilson became the youngest player ever to pitch a no-hitter in the National League on June 18, 1967. The then 22 year-old Astro defeated the Atlanta Braves 2-0.

The Astrodome became the site for major league baseball's All-Star game on June 9, 1968. A crowd of 47,321 paid a record \$383,733 to witness the National League's 1-0 victory.

The world indoor boxing attendance record was set in the Dome on February 6, 1967 when 37,321 fans saw Cassius Clay successfully defend his title against Ernie Terrell, in a 15-round affair.

The University of Houston Cougars hosted the UCLA Bruins on January 20, 1968 and set a record basketball crowd of 52,693, while defeating the nation's No. 1 team 71-69.

Billy Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in the famous \$100,000 "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match on September 20, 1973. A world tennis attendance record was set as 30,472 witnessed the event.

Over the years many more events were scheduled in the "Eighth Wonder of the World" with nearly all turning out successful. Concerts, rodeos, circuses, prize fights, auto thrill shows, motorcycle championships, midget auto races and bloodless bullfights.

After a decade as successful and glamorous as the stadium has had it still hasn't hosted a World Series — but wait till next year.

1975 TEXAS A&M BASEBALL — FULL SEASON (24-4-1)

Player	C	Ab	R	H	Avg	BI	2B	3B	HR	Sb	Sac	Hp	Bb	So	Po	A	E
Frazier	25	101	29	44	.436	12	3	0	1	9	1	1	5	6	39	0	0
Campbell	28	94	21	38	.404	18	6	3	1	1	0	0	7	3	21	46	8
Thurmond	28	85	16	32	.376	10	2	1	1	3	1	2	12	10	44	2	2
Schraeder	29	92	19	34	.370	25	9	1	4	3	6	0	18	18	70	48	6
Hawthorne	28	97	19	33	.340	16	7	1	0	2	4	1	21	5	144	20	1
Bratsen	29	101	22	34	.337	20	3	1	2	0	1	1	15	9	196	5	0
Buxkamper	6	3	0	1	.333	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	5	2
Larsen	6	3	1	1	.333	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0
Raymer	29	100	18	33	.330	24	7	2	5	1	5	0	20	9	29	4	1
Olmo	4	4	2	1	.250	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bonner	13	46	7	11	.239	4	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	4	6	2
Crabtree	23	67	10	16	.239	9	3	0	0	2	3	2	5	8	13	3	1
James	10	13	1	3	.231	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	15	1	0
Russ	29	101	10	19	.188	12	5	2	0	5	3	0	11	3	40	71	15
Biersner	7	10	1	1	.100	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	5	29	1	0
Hodges	6	7	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Warthen	2	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gibson	12	1	1	1	1.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	12	0
Lockett	14	2	1	1	.500	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	11	0
Thomas	11														2	10	1
Schemack	3														0	3	0
Alley	1														0	0	0
Wilson	1														0	0	0

A&M	OPP	29	928	178	303	.327	155	50	13	14	25	6	118	84	681	250	48	
OPP		29	853	78	185	.217	66	35	6	5	9	13	16	113	163	648	285	0

LOB: A&M 249, Opp 237

DP: ARMIB 0

Player	C	W	L	ERA	IP	H	R	Er	Bb	So	Wp	Hb	Bk	G	Gr
Alley	1	0	0	.000	0%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schemack	3	2	0	0.77	11%	8	1	1	6	7	0	0	0	0	0
Campbell	10	5	1	1.84	34%	32	11	7	15	17	0	2	1	4	1
Gibson	12	7	1	1.91	56%	47	19	12	30	41	6	4	0	9	3
Lockett	14	6	0	2.01	71%	50	20	16	38	51	4	6	0	8	3
Thomas	11	4	2	2.88	50	43	23	16	18	45	2	4	0	8	4
Hodges	2	0	0	11.99	2%	4	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson	1	0	0	—	—	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

A&M	OPP	29	24	4	2.22	227	185	78	56	113	163	13	16	1	29	13
OPP		29	4	24	5.66	218	303	178	137	118	84	16	6	0	29	8

Score:	A&M 3-8, Sam Houston 1-0	A&M 6-16, SMU 2-8	A&M 3-5, Arkansas 2-0
A&M 7-7, St. Mary's 1-2	A&M 2-3, Kansas 1-2	A&M 5-7, Minnesota 4-1	A&M 10-17, TCU 3-1
Jaylor 4, A&M 3	A&M 5, Kansas 2	A&M 9, TCU 1	A&M 13, Houston 2
A&M 1-6, Baylor 0-9	Tulane 2-1, A&M 0-1	A&M 9, TCU 1	A&M 3-5 Houston 1-5
A&M 10-5, St. Mary's 5-1	A&M 10, Tulane 9	A&M 13, Houston 2	
A&M 6, SMU 3	Arkansas 4, A&M 1	A&M 3-5 Houston 1-5	

Morton, Evans guide Braves past Houston

HOUSTON (AP)—Carl Morton pitched a five-hitter and Darrell Evans broke a scoreless tie with a fifth-inning single Tuesday night to lead the Atlanta Braves to a 2-0 victory over the Houston Astros.

Morton, who at one point retired 16 straight batters before shortstop Larvell Blanks' throwing error on Rob Andrews' grounder ended the string in the seventh inning, wound up striking out four batters, did not issue a walk and was helped by two double plays.

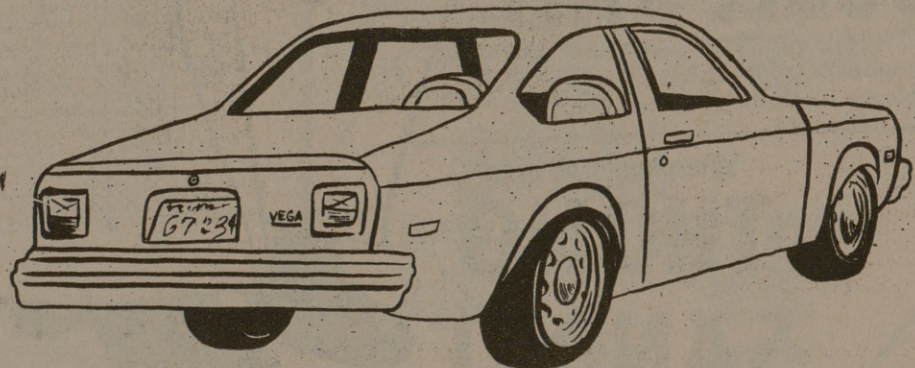
He gave up first-inning singles to Andrews and Cesar Cedeno, eighth-inning singles to Cliff Johnson and Doug Rader and a ninth-inning double to Rafael Batista.

The Braves tagged Houston rookie Doug Koniczny for both their runs in the fifth inning. Ralph Garr singled, moved to third when Marty Perez reached on shortstop Roger Metzger's error, Evans singled for one run and Perez came home on Mike Lum's grounder.

The Fair

Manor East Mall

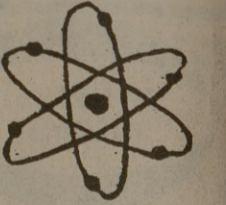
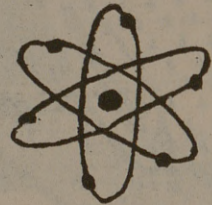
Last week to register for The Fair's Manor East Mall Chevrolet Vega. Better Hurry!



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