

the sports

Ponies no pushover

Ags sweep series

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Sports Editor

Thanks to a dwindling bull pen and a sinking sun, the Texas A&M ball team got an early Easter present last weekend. As darkness fell over Olsen Field Saturday evening, the Aggies had found three winning eggs to add to their list of victories, having swept a five-game series with the SMU Mustangs.

The Aggies took a narrow 5-3 victory in Friday's game and an even closer 3-2 victory in Saturday's game.

With the score tied 3-3 in the bottom of the 12th inning of Saturday's game, the game was called because of darkness. After a team vote in the SMU locker room, the Mustangs decided to forfeit the final game rather than return on Easter Sunday to complete the series. Thus, the Aggies, who had gone through five pitchers in the game, were credited with a 9-0 victory in accordance with Southwest Conference rules.

Texas A&M led 1-0 through six innings of the nightcap on strong pitching by freshman starter Steve Davis. But an error in the seventh allowed SMU to score three unearned runs and take a 3-1 lead.

The Aggies tied the game in the eighth on an error and an RBI triple by Bryan Little. Neither team could cash across the winning run through the next three innings.

Talk about a home field advantage! The Aggies will be the first to admit that the last game could have gone either way.

"This team isn't a pushover anymore," Texas A&M first baseman Steve Hawthorne said of the Mustangs. "We haven't run away from them now in two years. They've played us some good, close ball

games."

Last year the Aggies defeated SMU twice, 2-1 and 3-2, but the Mustangs won the final contest 3-1.

The Ponies proved early that this year would be no different. In Friday's game, SMU scored two quick runs off of Mark Ross in the first inning. The Aggies came back in the fourth when Shelton McMath drove in a run and a triple by Harry Francis scored two more. In the fifth, after SMU scored its final run, Hawthorne and McMath each scored an RBI to give the Aggies the winning margin.

"It was a combination of good pitching and timely hitting," Aggie coach Tom Chandler said of the first victory. "Harry Francis really picked us up with his triple. He had a good day for us." Francis is starting at third base for Texas A&M, a position usually filled by Mark Warriner. Warriner is benched for an undetermined amount of time with stretched muscle fibers in his leg.

"We got clutch hitting today and that's what counts," Francis said. "For two years we've been a clutch club. When the pressure is on, when we've had to have it, we've had it."

McMath had it on his first trip to the plate in Saturday's opener. In the bottom of the second, with Hawthorne on first base, McMath hit his fifth home run of the season, driving the ball over the left field fence about 350 feet from home plate.

Little scored for the Aggies in the fifth on an overthrow error by SMU third baseman Pat Garcia. After beating out a perfect bunt to start the inning, Little flew toward second when the next batter, Randy Woodruff, knocked the ball to Garcia. Garcia overthrew first and Little rounded third and crossed the plate untouched.

The Mustangs scored in the sixth

on an error by Harry Francis and again in the seventh on a sacrifice by SMU's Rene Strong.

Texas A&M is now 24-12 on the year and 10-4 in Southwest Conference play. SMU dropped to 17-21 for the season and 4-13 in league action. The Aggies play Texas Tech this weekend.

"This thing is a long way from over," Chandler said. "We've got to play each game one at a time. Every ball game will be like we're going for the pennant. We're going to have to fight from behind."

Linescores

SMU	200 010 000—3 7 1
Texas A&M	000 320 000—5 8 0
Hollister	and Kover. Ross and Turner.
W—Ross (6-3). L—Hollister (3-5). Att—2,100.	

SMU	000 001 1—2 11 1
Texas A&M	020 010 0—3 6 4
Janosko and George. Kover (7). Thurmond and Turner.	W—Thurmond (8-1). L—Janosko (2-3). Hrs—McMath (A&M). Att—3,000.

SMU	000 000 300 000—3 6 1
Texas A&M	000 100 002 000—3 13 1
(Game called; darkness; A&M awarded 9-0 forfeit victory).	
McLeon, Hughes (5) and Kover. Davis, McDonald (7), Hodde (7), Pockrus (10), Thurmond (11) and Turner, Hawthorne (10).	W—not recorded; forfeit. L—not recorded; forfeit. Att—2,500.

SWC Standings

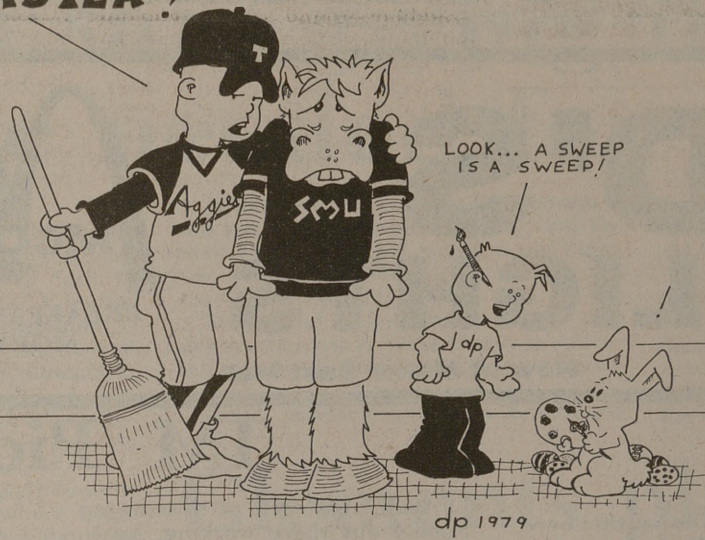
Texas	14-1 .933
Arkansas	14-4 .778
Texas A&M	10-4 .714
Baylor	11-8 .579
Houston	11-10 .524
Texas Tech	7-11 .389
TCU	5-13 .278
SMU	4-13 .235
Rice	3-15 .167

Last week's results

FRIDAY: Houston 11, Texas Tech 1; Baylor 7, Rice 6; Texas 3, TCU 1; Texas A&M 5, SMU 3.

SATURDAY: Houston 67, Texas Tech 1-2; Baylor 8-10, Rice 3-7; Texas 5-15, TCU 1-5; Texas A&M 3-9, SMU 2-0 (second game forfeit).

YOU MAKE THE CHOICE ... BUT I'M SURE YOUR MOTHER WOULD WANT YOU HOME FOR EASTER!



3rd Boston Marathon held today

United Press International
BOSTON — An elite field of long distance runners, led by defending champion and favorite Bill Rodgers, gathered today with thousands of pre-racers for the 83rd annual running of the prestigious Boston Marathon. College Station is well represented in the Marathon. Scott Peters, a 20-year-old pre-vet student

at Texas A&M, and Charles W. Blumentritt, a member of the Brazos Valley Joggers Club and resident of College Station, are participating in the event.

The official number of entrants totals 7,840, up 3,000 from last year's record, which in turn was 1,000 more than the record in 1976. As many as 10,000 official and unofficial

runners are expected to tour the 26-mile, 385-yard course from Hopkinton to downtown Boston.

"This is the strongest field since I've run in the Marathon, and it's my sixth race," said Rodgers, who won in 1975 and 1978. "It may be the strongest field ever, but there might be someone out there who could dispute that."

Come See and Hear

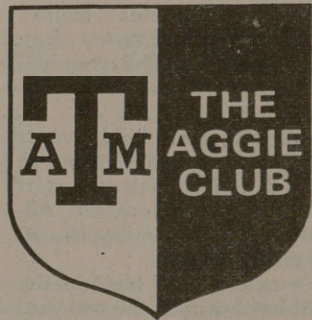
Head Football Coach

Tom Wilson

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7:30 p.m.

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Zebco 808 Reel (Big & Tuff) **16⁹⁵**

Skyline Redneck Graphite Rods **32⁹⁵**

Cordell Graphite II Rods **WOW!! .29⁹⁵**

Lew's Super Speed Sticks (Graph/Glass) **27⁹⁵**

Lew's Speed Sticks **19⁹⁵**

Lew's Sticks **14⁹⁵**

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