

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Aggie softball team begins spring season with 4 wins

The Texas A&M University women's softball team began its spring schedule this past weekend, and of course that means a few more victories appeared under its belt.

The pitching duo of Shan McDonald and Lori Stoll were virtually untouchable once again as

they only allowed one run in four games at Bee Creek Park in College Station in front of approximately 150 fans.

Friday evening, the Ags swept Texas Woman's University, 3-0 and 1-0, the latter being a 17-inning affair which was started and finished by Stoll, the 1980 Texas

Player of the Year. In that game, Stoll struck out 19 batters and allowed 11 hits. In the final inning, Melody Pritchard walked and took second on a single by Pam Whigham. Maria Resendez walked to load the bases and tall Nancy Sullivan smacked a triple by the drawn in outfield to win the game.

In the first game, McDonald was superb, allowing only four hits in a 3-0 win. She also did not allow a ball to be hit out of the infield. The game began for the Aggies with a bunt single by Karen Guerrero and a following two-run home run by Carrie Austgen. Melody Pritchard tripled later and scored on a past ball.

Saturday, Stoll and McDonald won their second games each as the Ags swept UT-Arlington, with McDonald allowing only four hits again and striking out six in the first game. Rhonda Reese plated both runs with a pair of singles as Texas A&M won 2-1.

The Aggies will go to Denton Friday for two games with TWU, and will then jaunt on over to Arlington for a doubleheader against UTA Saturday.

— Richard Oliver

Ags gain split with NEL

By RICHARD OLIVER
Sports Editor

David Flores was perplexed. The Texas A&M sophomore pitcher walked slowly back from the right field bullpen following the first game of Saturday's doubleheader against Northeast Louisiana.

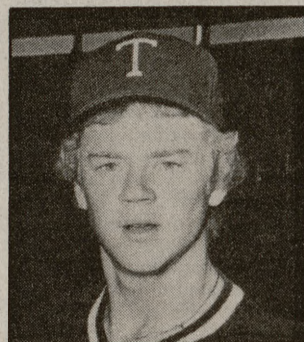
Flores lasted just 4½ innings in that game, giving up eight hits and nine runs, seven of them earned, as the Ags lost game 9-7.

He sat down on the bench. "I just couldn't get it together today," he said.

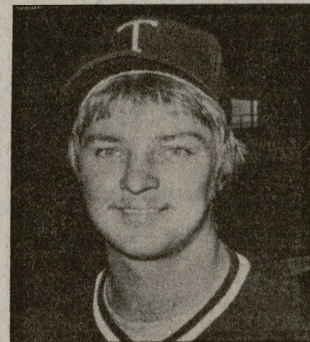
He was not alone. The Aggie pitching, which has been labeled as the Ags' main asset, fell apart in the four-game series with the Indians, allowing 26 runs in 28 innings. In the second game of Saturday's doubleheader, however, a bright spot appeared on the mound for Texas A&M, as junior left-hander Steve Davis, who appeared in only three games and 11 innings last season, went nearly four innings without allowing a NEL baserunner. In the fifth inning, Davis tired and allowed four runs to score on a grand slam by NEL's Jay Branham. He got the win, though, as the Aggies erupted for 15 runs to win 15-5.

The best pitching performance of the weekend was turned in by Ag hurler Rick Luecken, 1-0, in the first game Friday. The Houston sophomore went five innings, allowing only five hits and no runs and struck out eight. The Aggies won that game, 6-3. NEL won game two Friday, 11-0, coming from behind with four runs in the seventh inning off of reliever Perry Kilgo, 0-1.

Although the 2-2 season slate



Steve Davis



Tim Boyes

thus far is a trifle surprising, and the pitching has been less-than-expected, Chandler saw several bright spots, especially in the hitting.

"It's (pitching failure) just hopefully that Northeast Louisiana has outstanding hitters," he said. "Davis got a little pop in his fastball and did a good job. It's just going to be a tough struggle all year long if the pitching doesn't come around."

(Terry) Lawrence and (Billy) Cannon impressed me," said Chandler. "We can run those bases. (Joey) Szekely's gonna be somethin'."

The Aggies were indeed impressive on the bases and hitting. But it was freshman Billy Cannon, the man Chandler says he's bringing along very slowly, who provided the fireworks, both on the bases and at the plate. In the sixth inning of game two Saturday, Cannon capped off a six-for-15 series performance with a tremendous 400-foot home run over the left field wall. Cannon also had five RBIs and scored an amazing seven runs in the series.

Other players to watch: — Center fielder Lawrence hit a home run in game two, knocking in nine runs in the four games and scoring five. He also had a triple and a stolen base.

— Third basemen Tim Boyes hit a home run in game one Saturday and knocked in five runs over the series. He also scored five times and had a stolen base.

— Catcher Szekely hit three triples in the four games and had one double. He knocked in four runs and scored two.

— First basemen Rodney Hodde, who Chandler calls the team's "bread and butter man," had an impressive series at the plate despite a pulled groin muscle suffered in the first game. The senior slugger had four hits in just five plate appearances, including a double, two RBIs and three runs scored.

— Senior left fielder J.P. Bramhall had three stolen bases in game one Friday, and at the plate he drew eight walks in the series. He also scored six times and had four RBIs.

In game two Friday, sopho-

more Robert Slavens, who won 11 games last season, was shelved, losing his control and giving up four earned runs in four innings pitched and issuing three walks.

While the hitting was surprisingly good, only the pitching of Davis, Luecken and reliever "B.B." Schott was encouraging. Schott pitched 2½ innings, appearing in two games, and gave up two hits and three walks while striking out three.

"I felt good," said Davis, who was picked as the surprise fourth starter late last week. "For three or four innings I felt real good. I guess I was a little tired (by the fifth inning). You know, when you have a lead, you've got to hang in there and throw strikes. We won, that's all that matters."

"I went out with a good attitude. I was getting ahead of the batters early ... using many fastballs and curves."

Chandler was high on Davis performance. "He deserved a chance to start," he said. "He'd worked hard and looked good. He pitched a little in a JV contest, and looked real good."

Szekely, who played in the Central Illinois League during last summer and came back this past fall much stronger and wiser, is optimistic about the year.

"The pitching's gonna come along," he said after Saturday's contests. "The hitting's coming along real good. We're playing pretty good defensive ball. It's going to be good when people really start beating down."

The Aggies will play at Ft. Olsen Field Saturday in a doubleheader against St. Mary's University, beginning at 1 p.m.

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Ladies, 7-22, lose two

By RICK STOLLE
Battalion Staff

Turnovers and inconsistent play doomed the Aggie Ladies as the team dropped the final two games of the season at G. Rollie White Coliseum over the weekend.

The Ags lost to Nebraska 71-64 in a tough battle in which the Ags matched the Cornhuskers in the second half. Twenty-five turnovers hurt the Aggies chances as Nebraska turned the ball over only 16 times.

Neither team was able to shoot well throughout the game. Even though the Ags out-rebounded Nebraska 54 to 43, they did not shoot well enough to take advantage of their chances.

The leading scorer for the Ags was Tammy Crafton with 12. She was followed by Cathy Fuller and Kelley Sullivan with nine points apiece and Trigg Crawford with eight.

Nebraska was led by Kathy Hagerstorm and Janet Smith with 16 points apiece.

If the Ags were doomed in the Nebraska game because of turnovers, they were devastated in the

Houston game. The Ags suffered 32 to the Cougar 19. Most of the turnovers were due to the quality of the Cougar guards. They intercepted poor Ag passes and cause others and allowed Houston to get their fast break offense working.

The Ags played a fine first half and actually led Cougars 33-32 at the half. In the second half, however, the bottom fell out of the Aggie boat.

Coach Cheri Rapp emphasized it after the game when she said, "We were inconsistent all year. We would play in spurts but could not get too solid games together."

Rapp said she is already looking toward next year and is out recruiting trying to replace the seniors who played in their last game at Texas A&M.

"Luckily, we are not hurt too badly with graduation," she said. "But we hope to bring in some help to help us offset the loss of our seniors and leadership."

The Ags are losing seniors Tammy Crafton, Trigg Crawford, Cathy Fuller and trainer Bobby McLean. The Lady Aggies finished their season 7-22.

A&M women dominate meet; test out new Kyle Field track

Here is the results from the Texas A&M-UT-Arlington women's dual track meet Saturday at Kyle Field. No points were tallied because UT-A brought a very small squad.

Long jump — 1, Paula Lake, A&M, 16-1 (5.17 meters); 2, Dena Spier, A&M, 15-7 (4.75).

High jump — 1, Becky Doetz, A&M, 5-4 (1.625); 2, Pauline Morrel, 5-4.

Javelin — 1, Karen Morgan, A&M, 97-1¼ (29.61); 2, Pam Stafford, A&M, 90-5¼ (27.58).

Shotput — 1, Dana Beckley, UTA, 38-11 (11.97); 2, Dena Spier, A&M, 38-9 (11.91).

Discus — 1, Vickilee Coburn, A&M, 143.92; 2, Dena Spier, A&M, 143.92.

100-meter dash — 1, Sandra Corp, A&M, 13.07; 2, Kathy Leggett, A&M, 14.17.

200-meter dash — 1, Evelyn Smith, A&M, 34.95; 2, Kathy Leggett, A&M, 36.11; 3, Paula Lake, A&M, 36.78.

400-meter dash — 1, Suzanne Shaffer, A&M, 59.85; 2, Paula Lake, A&M, 1:01.87; 4, Dena Spier, A&M, 1:02.47; 5, Nancy Chan, UTA, 1:03.20; 6, Melody Dennis, UTA, 1:04.00.

1,600-meter relay — 1, UTA, 4:11.00; A&M, 4:17.19; 3, A&M, 4:26.89.

1,000-meters — 1, Lisa McCaskey, A&M, 3:15.10; 2, Beverly Porter, A&M, 3:16.38.

1,600-meters — 1, Barbara Collier, A&M, 5:08.96; 2, Diane Harrell, A&M, 5:25.08.

2,000-meters — 1, Lorie Scott, UTA, 6:50.00; 2, Marilee Mathews, A&M, 17:43.50; 2, Adelaide Brattin, A&M, 19:07.46.

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