

Win nine, lose four to improve record to 16-7

# Aggie baseballers enjoy prosperous 'vacation'

By RICHARD OLIVER  
Battalion Staff  
The Texas A&M University

baseball team begins its spring break this week after a full week of baseball while most Aggies were

away. The Aggies split a doubleheader against Sam Houston State Sunday to complete a 9-4 record over the University's spring break. The Ags are now 16-7 overall.

The twinbill in Huntsville, played in windy, cold conditions, was full of sloppy execution and long balls on both sides, with the Bearkats winning game two 9-7 despite two late homers by Texas A&M's Rodney Hodde. Hodde

finished the game with an incredible seven RBIs.

The Aggies won the first game 14-9 as reserve catcher Mark Magee slammed a grand slam home run in a seven-run first inning.

The big story last week, however, was the Aggies come-from-behind efforts. Entering Sunday's doubleheader, the Aggies had won four of their last five games in their last at bat.

While most Aggie students headed to the beaches on March 13, the Aggies headed to Houston to take on Rice in the conference opener.

The Owls won the first game of the three-game series 4-3 behind star hurler Matt Williams. Texas A&M rebounded Saturday to sweep the Owls in ballgames marred by two bottle-throwing incidents.

The Ags won game one 3-1, coming from one run down late in the game on a home run by Kevin Smith. Rick Luecken got the win. Game two provided the most action on and off the field, however.

Early in the game, a crowd gathered beyond the left field fence and several beer-drinking Rice students gathered, often heckling the Aggie outfielders. In the second inning, leftfielder J.P. Bramhall jogged in from his position to complain and hand the umpire a beer bottle that had sailed out of the group.

The umpire warned the game would be forfeited to Texas A&M if any other trouble ensued.

Later in the game with the Aggies up 7-2, another bottle landed near Bramhall, who reported it again. The Aggies were pulled off the field and the bottle-thrower was arrested after a 30-minute chase by a policeman. Play continued and the Aggies took the win.

Last Monday, the Ags returned to the more peaceful Pat Olsen Field and Bobby Taylor recorded the pitching staff's first shutout as he blanked Texas Wesleyan 8-0 on a five-hitter. Hodde had a two-run home run in that game.

In the second game, a five-run TWU outburst in the top of the seventh sank the Aggies, 7-3.

Tuesday, the Ags began some incredible successive late-inning heroics by scoring five runs in the last two innings to overcome Southwestern 11-8 in the first game of a doubleheader. Joey Szekeley had a crucial homer in that game.

In the second game, a controversial judgment by the umpires against Southwestern and a two-run rally in the bottom of the seventh brought victory to Texas A&M again.

In the sixth, Southwestern had scored two runs and were threatening again with two out and the bases loaded. Bryan Neal hit a sharp grounder to Clint Heard at shortstop. The ball went through his legs and trickled into left field, scoring two runs.

However, the Aggies appealed that the second SWU runner didn't touch third rounding the bag. The umpires agreed and both runs and the error were erased as the decision was made that the play was a force, thus it was the third out and neither run would count.

The Southwestern coach was ejected during an argument after he kicked dirt on the umpire. In the bottom of the seventh, a double by Kevin Smith scored two runners and the Ags walked away with a 7-6 controversial win.

Wednesday, the heroics continued. The Aggies entered the final inning trailing Centenary 2-1 on a very windy day.

Tim Boyes singled, Billy Can-

non reached on an error. Bramhall rapped another single to load the bases for second baseman David Kennard. Kennard ran a wind aided grand slam bunched on top of the right fence.

In the second game, a single scored Szekeley on a base in the bottom of the eighth. Texas A&M took a 4-3 win. Schott, 2-0, got the win over the bullpen.

Saturday, a powerful team squad came into College Station for a twinbill after winning the American Invitational in Luburg Friday.

Still headed after a 4-3 last win over Texas Tech in the name's final game, the Ags rode the potent bat of Dick Len to a 5-4 win. But the Ags just short of tying the game in half of the seventh as they were three runs.

Perhaps the finest performance of the week offensively came in the second game of the doubleheader. Texas A&M entered the bottom seventh behind, 8-4. Hodde led, Szekeley reached on an error. Grant Priess singled in two runs. Kevin Smith singled in the run. A single by Bramhall in the mental lapse by the Aggie pitcher on a Kennard grounder loaded the bases, and Terrance hit a high chopper to third baseman to score Smith third with the winning run.

The Ags next action will be Friday and Saturday in Worth when they play a three-game SWC series with TCU.

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## Ruggers gain momentum

By RICK STOLLE  
Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M Rugby club swept its matches over the spring break to raise its record to 6-2 for the spring season and gather a great deal of momentum going into the Western Intercollegiate Preliminary Rugby Tournament.

The tournament is to be held in Sante Fe, N.M. April 17-19. Teams from Western collegiate division of the American Rugby-Football Federation will be competing.

The Ags defeated three good teams to earn their record.

Saturday, March 14, the Ags rushed past the Fort Worth Rugby

Club 13-9. The second side lost 17-8.

Over 500 fans showed up for the Ags next meeting Monday against Notre Dame University. The Ags were caught up in the excitement and walked over the Irish 32-0.

"It was pretty surprising," said Bill Taute, president of the Texas A&M Rugby club. "We even had a few scores called back."

Using the momentum to the fullest, the Ags then came on strong to defeat "Our Gang," a Dallas based rugby club, 6-4, Saturday.

The second side lost 4-0. Texas A&M is the Texas collegiate champion and has earned the

right to go to the collegiate playoffs.

The first round will be played at the Fe. The next step would be the Western Intercollegiate Championship May 10 in Ohio.

The team has no more state competition but will play "Old Maroon game" April 27 at 7-2 loss. The game will feature the Texas rugby team against ex-teammates who have graduated and on.

"It's always a good time. Taute. "Everybody gets to party with old friends."

## BOOKSTORE PROFITS WORKSHOP

Wednesday, March 11, 1981 4:00-5:15 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 25, 1981 5:15-6:30 p.m.  
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