

Sports

Aggies complete series sweep

By RICHARD OLIVER

The magic continued Tuesday for the Texas A&M University baseball team as it swept a doubleheader from scrappy Oklahoma City University, 7-6 and 7-0.

The "Comeback Corps" did just that once again in the last inning of the first game, scoring two runs to slip past the Chiefs for the second game in a row.

Texas A&M is now 20-10 on the season.

The Aggies entered the sixth inning of the first game behind 6-2 after a two-run home run in the fourth inning by Mark Andrus off of Texas A&M starter Bobby Taylor widened OCU's lead.

In the sixth, J.P. Bramhall took his 36th walk of the year, David Kennard singled and Monday's hero Tim Boyes lined a three-run homer, his fourth round-tripper of

the year, over the left field fence to cut the Chiefs' lead to 6-5.

In the bottom of the seventh, Terry Lawrence led off with a walk, was advanced to second on a single by Cannon and both runners advanced a base on a sacrifice bunt by Bramhall. After Kennard was intentionally walked with two outs to load the bases, Rodney Hodde looped a curving double down the left field line to score the winning runs.

Perry Kilgo, 1-1, took the win in relief of Taylor and second pitcher Marvin Keller.

In game two, the Aggies rode the suddenly rejuvenated arm of David Flores to a 7-0 triumph. Flores, 3-2, who entered the game with a 7-plus ERA, stymied OCU on just two hits through six innings before tiring and removing himself from the contest prior to the seventh. Francis "B.B." Schott shut down the Chiefs in the seventh as the Aggies won their

fourth straight after losing three to TCU in Fort Worth last weekend.

The Aggies tallied four runs in the third inning of the nightcap, including an impressive display of baserunning by freshman Billy Cannon.

Cannon walked with one out, then stole second and third base before scoring on a wild pitch. Bramhall then walked and Kennard stroked a single, moving Bramhall to third. A sacrifice fly by Boyes scored the Ags' second run and Rodney Hodde doubled in Kennard. A following RBI double by designated hitter Joey Szekely completed the four-run inning for the Aggies.

Two doubles by Cannon and shortstop Kennard accounted for another Texas A&M run in the fifth, and a single by Cannon, a walk to Bramhall and a single by Kennard scored another run in the seventh inning. A throwing error by OCU left fielder Bob Gergen allowed Bramhall to also score on the play, putting the Aggies ahead 7-0.

Flores, who also pitched well against TCU last Friday, allowing only one earned run in 7 1/2 innings of work despite losing the game 4-0, will pitch the first game of a doubleheader against Houston Saturday, Head Aggie Coach Tom Chandler said after the Tuesday twinbill.

"Earlier in the year he wasn't throwing his curve," Chandler said. "He just had to do something. They (opposing batters) were just sitting back waiting on his fastball. I'm going to change the rotation a bit this weekend."

The Aggies enter a crucial three-game Southwest Conference series with the Cougars Fri-

day in Houston beginning at 3 p.m. with a nine-inning contest. A twinbill will be played Saturday starting at 1 p.m. at Cougar Field. Rick Luecken, 5-1, will start Friday's game, with Flores and a third starter to be named later going on Saturday.

With the sweep Tuesday of OCU, the Aggies completed a four-game domination over the Chiefs, who entered the series with a fine 16-8 record.

On Monday, Steve Davis, 3-0, pitched four innings of no-hit ball, ending up with a four-hit, 8-1 victory. The Aggies scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh in Monday's nightcap to win 9-8 on a single by Boyes.

Boyes, whose three-run homer put the Ags back into the first game Tuesday after falling behind early, said he wasn't sure if the line drive shot was going to clear the fence.

"I hit it hard," he said, "but I didn't really think it was going out. I hit a lot of good balls at TCU, but right at people. I've been hitting hard, though. I came out early today with Billy Cannon to take some batting practice."

The first game of the doubleheader was delayed 45 minutes due to a persistent drizzle, and batting practice for both teams was cancelled, but the Aggies were not affected as they stroked 17 hits during the afternoon. Clearing skies in game two worked positively as Texas A&M had 10 hits.

Cannon, who played shortstop in the first game and was placed in center field in game two, said he thinks the four-game sweep may be just what the doctor ordered.

"I think this'll bring us up (for

this weekend)," he said. "We were fired up for every game of this series, standing up in front of the dugout and everything."

Flores said he didn't feel right on the mound most of the afternoon.

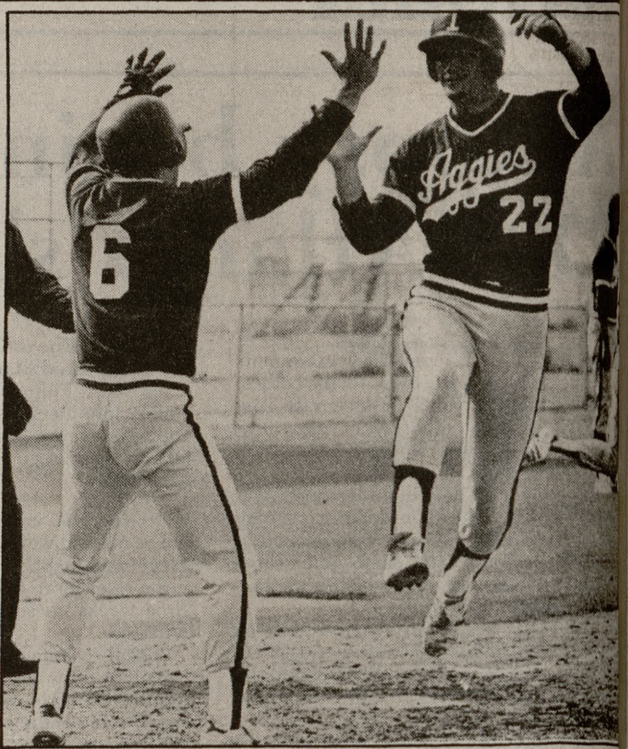
"My ball was really moving good," he stressed, "but I felt sluggish out there. It was really humid and I just had to wait and see how long I could last. I was sweating and hot and that worked for me, though."

"I've got some confidence now."

The Aggies, 2-4 in SWC play but 18-6 in non-conference action, could use that confidence going into the three-game tilt versus the Cougars.

Chandler, who has used primarily Flores, Luecken and Slavens on the mound in conference action, may have a tough decision to make on a third starter this weekend due to the early ineffectiveness of Slavens this year. The recent successes of Davis and Perry Swanson, 1-2, will be factors in his decision.

"I don't know who we'll start this weekend," Chandler said, "we'll just have to wait and see."



Staff photo by Greg Gamm

Texas A&M shortstop Billy Cannon prepares to give the "five" to teammate Terry Lawrence as he crosses home plate during the first game of Tuesday's double-header with Oklahoma City University. Cannon scored on Tim Boyes' home run in the sixth inning. The Aggies won both games to complete a series sweep from the Chiefs.

Carpenter, Oilers at odds over lack of playing time

United Press International HOUSTON — A Houston Oilers' running back fed up with playing behind Earl Campbell Tuesday reiterated his demand to be traded and said he would no longer be lured into playing for the team by visions of a Super Bowl championship.

"Bum (Phillips) always told me to stick around because we were Super Bowl contenders, but I look around now, and on paper they're not Super Bowl contenders," Rob Carpenter said.

He blamed what he perceived as tight-fisted front office policies with undermining the ability of the team, which advanced to the NFL playoffs the past three seasons.

"I just felt the Oilers had the talent the last three years to win the Super bowl, but financially I really don't think they were trying to," he said.

Carpenter made his statements at a Houston Sportswriters and Sportscasters luncheon meeting, saying he attended because March

31 was the deadline he had given the team in January for trading him.

The Oilers have said they would not trade the four-year pro who led the team in rushing during his NFL rookie season in 1977 with 652 yards.

Campbell was drafted in 1973, leading the NFL in rushing every year since and relegating Carpenter to a reserve role.

Carpenter, 25, said he has interviewed for business jobs in his native Ohio and might never return to football if he accepts a job.

"I'll know in a week or so," he said. Carpenter is under a three-year contract with the Oilers, and he said the team has offered to replace it with a one-year pact.

"Money is not involved. I really don't make that much money," he said.

He said his decision to accept a job in business would not be a move to sit out his Oilers contract in hopes of joining another team another year.

His irritation stems from his lack of playing time when the Oilers are in an "I" formation, with Campbell as the only running back. Carpenter said before the end of the past two seasons he was by then head coach Phillips the two backs would be used at the same time.

Carpenter has gained fewer than 400 yards in each of the last three seasons, and last year he had a 3.7-yard rushing average on 57 carries while Campbell gained more than 1,900 yards.

Phillips was fired Dec. 31, and new head coach Eddie Biles has assured the unhappy athlete he will receive more playing time in 1981, Carpenter said.

"It's just time to make a decision that Rob Carpenter has to make instead of letting the Houston Oilers make it for me," he said.

As far as the Houston Oilers are concerned, their attitude is you should be happy to have a job and make good money.

He said he was not upset the Oilers running back Tim Wilson received more playing time than he did. Wilson is the blocking back for Campbell in the Oilers' "I."

"When they run the 'I,' Tim Wilson is the guy they should have in there. We started out in the two-back offense last year. But when we went to the 'I,' I went back to the bench," he said.

"I believe Eddie Biles when he says he may go to the two-back offense," Carpenter added. "But what if we lose the first two games then he's going to the 'I' offense to save his job."

Astros beat Braves, 4-0

United Press International COCOA, Fla. — Cesar Cedeno hit his first home run of the exhibition season and Joe Niekro pitched seven scoreless innings Tuesday to lead the Houston Astros to a 4-0 exhibition victory over the error-prone Atlanta Braves. Braves shortstop Luis Gomez booted Danny Heep's grounder in the fifth inning, allowing Houston's third run to score. In the third, Cedeno's home run bounced off the glove of left fielder Eddie Miller and over the fence. Knuckleballer Niekro, a 20-game winner last season, scattered eight hits and did not walk a batter. Frank LaCorte and Dave Smith each pitched a perfect inning in relief.

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