



staff photo by David Fisher

Brad Hisle, second baseman for the Texas A&M baseball team, slides safely into third base as a wild throw sails over the glove of St. Mary's infielder Oscar Cardenas in the fifth inning of Tuesday's double-header. Hisle scored later in the inning as the Aggies defeated the Rattlers 9-3, completing a two-game sweep.

Season opener

A&M baseball team tops St. Mary's 11-0, 9-3 as Luecken, Flores pick up victories

by Denise Sechelski and John Wagner

Battalion Staff
Texas A&M baseball coach Tom Chandler let the horses loose against St. Mary's University on Tuesday, and all the Rattlers could do was stand by and watch.

Led by solid hitting, tough pitching, and several strong defensive plays, Chandler's Aggies swept a double-header from the Rattlers 11-0 and 9-3.

Pitcher Rick Luecken started the first game for the Aggies, and after a shaky start, he settled down to throw a two-hit shutout over six innings.

With two men on in the top of the first, the Rattlers' Billy Montemayor lined a drive into right field. Terry Lawrence fielded the ball on one hop and threw John Kosub out at the plate. Catcher Joe Szekely blocked the plate, took the throw and held

on to tag out Kosub.

Szekely said the play was easier than it looked.

"I saw the throw coming, but I didn't know if the ball would make it in time," Szekely said. "Then I looked out of the corner of my eye and saw the runner coming home. I just tried to concentrate on the throw and make the tag. He hit me on the leg, but I held on."

In the bottom of the first, Szekely and third baseman Grant Priess hit back-to-back home runs to give the Aggies a 3-0 lead.

Luecken then retired the next seven batters he faced before giving up his second and last hit of the game in the fourth inning. The Aggies scored two more runs in the third to take a 5-0 lead.

The Aggies' Kevin Smith hit a three-run home run in the fourth, a shot that hit the left-

field foul pole. Smith's home run gave the Aggies an 8-0 advantage.

The Aggies scored three more times in the fifth to move the score to 11-0. Robert Slavens came on in relief of Luecken in the seventh inning and finished up the game. Luecken was the winning pitcher, and Allan Sapp took the loss for the Rattlers.

The Aggies continued their offensive assault in the second game.

Buddy Haney and Kevin Smith paced an Aggie attack that collected 11 hits in the series final. The Aggies scored in every inning, and freshman Haney hit a solo home run in his second collegiate at-bat.

In the sixth inning Smith hit his second home run of the day with no one on base to give the Aggies a 9-2 lead.

David Flores was the starting pitcher for the Aggies, and he

held the Rattlers scoreless through three innings. St. Mary's scored two runs in the fourth as a result of three Aggie errors. The Rattlers' third run came in the top of the seventh off senior Steve Davis, who replaced Flores in the sixth.

Flores won for the Aggies, and Mark Bond took the loss.

Chandler said the Aggies' offensive output was the result of several factors.

"St. Mary's has a young pitching staff, but it was definitely a hitters' day," Chandler said, referring to the windy conditions in Olsen Field.

Chandler said the Aggies have a good chance to win the conference title.

"We're going to have to work hard, but as long as we hustle, we've got a shot. The main thing is, these kids believe in themselves."

Aggies

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also, led by guard Joe Stephen and forward Doug Arnold with 14 each. Browder finished with 13 points, Jeff Baker had 11 and Brian Christensen had 10.

Texas A&M had a total of 31 assists, led by freshman guard Gary Lewis with 10 and Roberts with eight. Naulls and Woodley each had five assists.

Metcalf attributed the Aggies' comeback to their second-half intensity on defense.

"I thought we pressed well and shot well," Metcalf said. "We came out more aggressive defensively in the second half."

"It was a great basketball game. Both teams were well-prepared and played just as hard as they possibly could."

The Aggies didn't score a field goal until the 15:53 mark of the first half, when Woods slammed in a dunk on a pass from Woodley. TCU took a 9-4 lead with 15 minutes left in the half, as Stephen hit two

20-foot jumpers and Arnold scored on a 24-footer and three-point play.

The Horned Frogs increased the margin to 24-18 with 8:13 to play in the half, as Browder made two free throws. The lead grew to seven, at 38-31, as Nick Cucinella hit a jumper from the left side of the basket with 1:37 left in the half.

However, the Aggies narrowed the TCU lead to 40-37 at halftime as Riley sank two free throws, and Woodley, Woods and Roberts scored on jumpers within eight feet of the basket.

For the first half, the Aggies shot 53 percent from the field, and the Horned Frogs shot 58 percent. Riley led Texas A&M with 12 points, and Baker paced TCU with 11.

Woods started the second half with a layup off a Woodley assist, and two minutes later, the Aggies took their first lead of the game at 43-42. That lead grew to 49-44 with 15:05 left, but the Horned Frogs tied the

game at 50 with 13:43 to go.

The game was tied at 57 and 59 before a 10-2 surge by the Aggies gave them a 69-61 lead with 6:25 remaining. Scoring during that stretch were Woods on a free throw, Naulls on a 22-footer, Woodley on three free throws, Riley on a dunk and Roberts on a short jumper.

The lead grew to as much as 14 points, 83-69, with only 23 seconds remaining.

Riley said the Aggies never lost their poise, even when TCU took the early lead.

"We weren't worried at all," Riley said. "We knew we just had to correct the mistakes we made in the first half. We had no doubts that we'd win, because we had the enthusiasm."

Lewis, who had five points to go with his 10 assists, said the Aggies played more aggressively in the second half.

"In the first half, TCU came out popping," Lewis said. "But in the second half, we stopped them."

Stone trying to complete comeback

United Press International
MIAMI — Steve Stone, hoping to make a comeback from an injury-plagued 1981 season, held nothing back Tuesday as nine Baltimore Orioles pitchers worked under simulated game conditions.

While most of the others threw cautiously on the fifth day of training camp, Stone appeared overpowering in the one inning he pitched.

"He was throwing the kind of curve balls you'd expect to see on July 15," said Manager Earl Weaver.

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4 WHAT AM I?
I work all day and through the dark of night,
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When I stop, I cause alarming fright,
I swell with pride and cause a chest to heave.

2 14 11 10, 6
(Answer to Week #3 Riddle: TEACHER)

TO PLAY THE GAME:
Answer each of the riddles that will appear here each week in February. Write your answer in the blanks below each riddle. The letters with numbers below them correspond to the numbered spaces in the master key. As you fill in the letters of the master key, you will be spelling the name and location of a secret city in Europe. Send us the solution, and you and a friend could win a trip there, free.

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1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.
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3. Cut out master key for use as official entry blank or use 3" x 5" card. Print your answer along with your name and address. Mail to Secret City Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 6018, Norwalk, CT 06852.
4. The first 1,000 correct respondents will receive a poster as an entry prize.
5. All entries must be received by 3/15/82. Enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be mailed separately.
6. A random drawing of all correct entries will be held 3/22/82 by the Highland Group, an independent judging organization whose decision is final.
7. Sweepstakes void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted.
8. All potential winners may be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility to verify compliance with the rules within 30 days of receipt of same. For a list of prize winners, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to Secret City Sweepstakes c/o Highland Group, 16 Knight St., Norwalk, CT 06851.

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