

The Battalion Sports

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staff photo by David Fisher

Texas A&M first baseman Buddy Haney makes an assisted putout during a game earlier this season.

The Aggies swept a double-header from the McNeese State Cowboys Tuesday to up their record to 7-2.

Aggies sweep games with balanced effort

by John P. Lopez
Battalion Staff

Baseball experts have debated for years whether good hitting always beats good pitching or whether the opposite is true — the correct hypothesis may never be known.

One thing is certain however. Nothing can beat both good hitting and strong pitching — the Texas A&M baseball team is living proof.

The Aggies swept a double-header from McNeese State Tuesday 4-3 and 8-5 by utilizing consistent pitching, and smacking several key base hits on the offensive end.

Another factor working in the Aggies' favor was a good performance by utility infielder Tim Cartwright at second base. Cartwright replaced Clint Heard who's sitting out the week with a pulled hamstring.

And since Heard has been one of the Aggies' leading hitters so far in the season, Cartwright had big shoes to fill.

It was a perfect fit.

Cartwright did his job defensively, but more

important he tapped the Cowboy pitching staff for four hits in five appearances at the plate during the first game. Among those four hits was a game-winning smash up the middle with two outs in the seventh inning to drive in Billy Cannon from third base.

Rock King was the winning pitcher in relief for the Aggies while Scott Wade was the loser for the Cowboys.

Texas A&M had a much easier time handling McNeese in the second game Tuesday as pitcher Barry Smith got his first win of the year after relieving starter Todd Tshantz in the third inning. Tshantz left the game after pulling a muscle in his arm.

The good showing by Smith, Aggie coach Tom Chandler said, was a pleasant surprise for Texas A&M.

"I was real glad to get a good game out of Smith," he said. "All I can say about our pitching is 'so far so good.'"

Texas A&M faces McNeese State again today in a single game beginning at 3 p.m. at Olsen Field.

A&M softball team 'aces' Evansville in DH sweep

by Joe Tindel Jr.
Battalion Staff

Texas A&M's women's softball team picked up where it left off last fall with a pair of victories over the University of Evansville Aces here Monday.

The Aggies opened spring play with an 11-0 triumph over the Indiana school in the first game of the double-header, then polished off the Aces in the second game, 5-0.

Texas A&M displayed the same kind of play that helped the Aggies to a national championship last year and a 32-3 record last fall.

The Aggies made the first game a short one by forcing the 10-run rule to take effect. It went only five innings, during which time Aggies' all-America pitcher Lori Stoll no-hit the Evansville batters.

Stoll struck out eight batters and walked two in the first outing. The Aggies went to bat four times and collected eight hits. Sophomore outfielder Iva Jackson had two hits in three tries, one RBI, stole two bases and scored two runs. Shortstop Carrie Austgen hit twice in three at-bats, knocking

in a run on one and scoring three runs herself. First baseman Mary Schwind had a triple in the third inning and right fielder Linda Lancaster slugged in two runs.

In the second game senior pitcher Shan McDonald struck out 14 batters while walking only one. The Aces had only one hit off McDonald, but were able to keep the game going for the entire seven innings.

But Texas A&M got its first three home runs of the spring from Austgen, Schwinn and left fielder Debbie Rollman. Rollman also had two RBI. The Aggies came away with five hits in all for the second game.

Aggie Assistant Coach Sue Lilley said Texas A&M made a lot of substitutions in the second game and were without the services of clean-up hitter Josie Carter, who is still nursing a knee injury. Lilley said Carter should be back for the Aggies' game against Louisiana Tech Saturday at 1 p.m.

After the game, Aggie Head Coach Bob Brock

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