Spo	orts-	Friday, August 31, 1984/The Battalion/Page 9    Metcalf says Ag spirit is a big plus See page 13				
Battalion Scientific Football Picks	Ed Cassavoy Sports Editor	Travis Tingle Assist. Sports Editor	Tony Cornett Sports Writer	Peter Rocha Sports Photographer	Reveille	dp
UTEP at Texas A&M	Aggies by 20			Aggies by 14	Aggies by a 12th	Aggies by 47
East Carolina at Florida St.	Florida State by 7	Florida State by 7	East Carolina by 3	Florida State by 7	Florida State by 14	Florida State by 10
Mississippi St. at Tulane	Mississippi St. by 3	Mississippi St. by 3	Mississippi St. by 3	Mississippi St. by 7	Mississippi St. by a Bark	Mississippi St. by 1
Nest Carolina at Boston College	B.C. by 15	B.C. by 21	W. Carolina by 10	B.C. by 14	B.C. by 11	B.C. by 20
Brigham Young at Pittsburgh	Pitt by 10	Pitt by 13	Pitt by 7	Pitt by 3	Pitt by 14	Pitt by 1
Dhio U. at West Virginia	W. Virginia by 10	W. Virginia by 24	W. Virginia by 10	W. Virginia by 10	W. Virginia by 2	W. Virginia by 14
Northwestern at Illinols	Northwestern by 6	Illinois by 15	Illinois by 14	Illinois by 10	Illinois by 8	Illinois by 14
an Diego St. at Air Force	Air Force by 10	San Diego State by 6	Air Force by 10	San Diego State by 3	Air Force by 2	San Diego State by 7
Washington St. at Tennessee	Washington St. by 16	Tennessee by 3	Tennessee by 3	Washington St. by 3	Washington St. by 7	Tennessee by 10
Horida at Miami (Fla.)	Miami by 11	Miami by 6	Florida by 7	Miami by 7	Miami by 17	Florida by 1
Dallas at LA. Rams	Rams by 7	Cowboys by 3	Cowboys by 3	Cowboys by 10	Cowboys by a Bum	Rams by 3
A CONTRACT OF A	Raiders by 1	Raiders by 21	Raiders by 21	Raiders by 14	Houston without a Bum	Raiders by 10

## Johnson begins new A&M baseball era

#### **By TAMARA BELL** Sports Writer

Replacing Texas A&M Head Mark Johnson.

Johnson took over the baseball program at the end of last season afer Chandler announced his retirement after directing 26 successful easons at A&M.

"Since June 10, I've been excited at the prospect of assuming the head mach position for this A&M team even though following in such a recgnizably outstanding coach's foot-

steps will be difficult," Coach Mark Johnson said.

Although five starters will not be Baseball Coach Tom Chandler pro-vides a challenge for his successor — combination of 11 new recruits and veterans Rob Swain at shortstop, first baseman Buddy Haney, and Steve Johnigan at catcher should new season. equal another winning season.

> "Because pitcher Sherman Cor-bett won't be back, there will be competition to fill that space. As the coach, I'm striving for that competi-tion which will place the best player in each position. A strong nucleus is important for any team to perform

the same," Johnson said.

A new coaching staff consisting of Jimmy Lawler, former head coach at UTEP, and Bill Hickey of Kansas State, assists Johnson in commu-nicating the ideas and goals for the

'Even though each of us are bringing different coaching techniques to this team, we're moving in the same direction toward a unified staff and team," Johnson said.

Only a few changes from the previous program will be incorporated into the game plan.

"Some approaches will differ, but

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well and our team's nucleus remains the same," Johnson said. for the most part things will stay the same. Afterall, the team finished second in the conference and advanced to regionals. Why change a winning

system?" he said. In addition to playing each Southwest Conference team three times during the regular '85 season, the schedule also includes a three day tournament during springbreak at Pan American University in Edinburgh.

Since A&M will play such teams as Michigan, Oklahoma and Kansas, the strengths and weaknesses of the Aggie squad will become evident and changes will be made accordingly Johnson believes his team is a def--

inite contender for the Southwest Conference championship.

"Last season this team was second in the conference and went to regional play in Oklahoma. Although some player changes have been made, I think they can repeat last season's performance," he said.

After 15 years of coaching, Johnson is satisfied with his present position as head coach for A&M baseball and now calls College Station home.

"My goal was to become a college baseball coach for a Division I team at a school that cares about the pro-

gram and is supportive. I've found all that at A&M,' Johnson said.

#### **Sherrill has** open practice

The Texas A&M Sports Information Department announced that the Sept. 3 and Sept. 10 Ag-gie football practices will be open to all A&M students with their student I.D.

Both of these Mon. practices will begin at 7 p.m. These will be the only two practices open to students.

Coach Jackie Sherrill said he made the decision, "because I want to continue to develop closer ties between the football team and the student body, in the same manner as the Twelfth Man team. This is what makes A&M special.





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