

Errors help Gophers

# A&M splits twinbill

By BRANDON BERRY  
Sports Writer

Minnesota may have a gopher as a mascot, but Texas A&M found most of the holes in Olsen Field Tuesday night.

Despite committing six errors in the double-header (five in the second game), the Aggies won the second game 6-4 to salvage a hard-earned split of the twinbill. The Golden Gophers won the first game 10-4.

"They have got good athletes," A&M Coach Mark Johnson said of the Gophers. "I was really impressed with them. They have good hitting up and down their line-up, they play good defense and they're very well-coached."

They also know a good opportunity when they see one.

A&M right-hander Tom Arrington returned from over three weeks of injury-related inactivity and was rewarded with his first loss of the '85 season.

The Gophers welcomed him back with runs in the first and second innings and he was sent to the showers early.

"(Arrington's performance) was pretty much what we expected," Johnson said. "We didn't expect him to go out there and be totally sharp or overpower anyone. We just wanted to give him a chance to go out and get comfortable on the mound again."

"You have to remember that that's the first time he's pitched for us in over three weeks. He's almost back at full speed and we're expecting

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— A&M Baseball Coach Mark Johnson

him to continue to improve in his next few outings.

"We're going to need him as we get deeper into conference play."

The Ags were led in the first game by freshman third baseman Scott Livingstone, who recently was named Southwest Conference Player of the Week by the Associated Press. Livingstone went one for three, with two RBIs.

Minnesota (2-4) was paced by senior center fielder Patrick Pohl, who went three for five and contributed two RBIs to a four-run outburst in the top of the fourth that put the game out of A&M's reach.

The Gophers also played solidly in the field all night, despite having played 21 fewer games this season than the Aggies.

"They haven't played very many games this year but they did have a few games under their belts, so I don't think it was that much of a factor," Johnson said. "You like to think that it would work in our favor, but every team has its ups and downs."

"I felt a lot better about our offensive performance in the second game."

In the second game, freshman right-hander Kyle Atkinson started the game for the Aggies, and teamed

with bullpen relievers David Bruning, Jimmy Flowers and Beje Mahoe on a three-hitter.

So how, you may ask, did the Gophers dig up four runs?

"We didn't play good defense out there," Johnson said of his team's five-error performance in the nightcap. "Any time you commit that many errors and win the game, you have to consider yourself fortunate."

The Aggies won because of a 10-hit effort that included Robi Chandler's third homerun of the season in the third and a two RBI double by Fred Gegan in the fourth.

But the victory wasn't signed, sealed and delivered until Mahoe struck out Minnesota's Pohl with the bases loaded to end the game.

"Because of our defense, the game was probably closer than it should have been," Johnson said. "But those things happen against a good ballclub and they didn't show a lot of weaknesses."

"What we've got to learn is how to turn (the hitting) on and keep it on, because the season is a long one."

The Aggies finish their series against the Gophers with a double-header today at 1 p.m. at Olsen Field.

# Twin towers break Kings' momentum

Associated Press

Rockets 115, Kings 93

HOUSTON — Behind 22 points by Ralph Sampson and 20 by Akeem Olajuwon the Houston Rockets ended Kansas City's five-game winning streak with a 115-93 victory Tuesday.

Kansas City (29-44) connected on only eight of its first 26 shots while Sampson hit seven dunks on 11 shots for 15 points in leading Houston (41-29) to a 56-46 halftime lead.

The Rockets opened the third period by outscoring the Kings 15-6 and extended its lead to 24 points at 84-60, assisted by Lewis Lloyd, who hit 10 points in the period.

Mavericks 134, Warriors 107

DALLAS — Rolando Blackman scored 15 of his 24 points during the third quarter and the Dallas Mavericks turned a one-point deficit into a 134-107 win over the Golden State Warriors Tuesday.

The Mavericks (41-32), trailing 56-55 at halftime, hit 16 of 22 shots during the period and 11 of 11 free throws to take a 98-82 lead after three quarters.

The Warriors (20-52) played without forward Purvis Short, the league's third leading scorer at 28.3 points per game, who sat out with a lower back injury.

Dallas used runs of 10-0, 7-0 and 6-0 in the third quarter to pull away from the Warriors.

# A&M netters don't take prisoners

By MARYBETH ROHSNER  
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M tennis teams are serious about their battle to the top. They take no prisoners.

The Aggie netters gunned down the enemy in dual-match play Tuesday when the men hosted North Texas State in College Station and the women trekked to Waco to face Baylor.

The No. 7 men's team brought its season record to 16-6 overall at NTSU's expense. The Ags slammed the Eagles 9-0, sweeping the six singles matches and the three doubles matches.

"North Texas is not a strong team this year," said A&M Coach David Kent. "This is a rebuilding year for them. In the years to come, they will be a lot stronger."

Senior Greg Hill led the siege on NTSU in place of A&M's regular top singles player, Grant Connell. Kent said Connell and junior Kimmo Alkio sat out against NTSU to rest and give other team members an opportunity to gain match experience.

"It takes a good team to beat us," Kent said. "We have so much depth that we have the luxury of letting everyone play."

Kent also revamped the doubles lineup for NTSU. Hill was paired with Marcel Vos, Mark Smith with Dean Goldfine, and Dean Johnson with Chris Stanich.

The sudden reshuffling of doubles teams came about after the Ags lost in the No. 2 and No. 3 slots at the Rice Invitational last weekend.

"(Losing two out of three doubles matches) was an embarrassment to me," Kent said. "If you can't win the doubles, you can't win the match."

The roster change worked against NTSU, but Kent may revise the doubles again because the Eagles weren't that good.

"In the doubles, we don't have much consistency of play except in the No. 1 team," Kent said. "We'll just keep changing until we do something right."

For now, at least, Kent is satisfied. "As long as we keep succeeding, we'll keep (the lineup) this way — as long as we're competing up to our potential," he said.

While the men bombed NTSU on the home front, the women took the offensive in Waco by disarming Baylor, 9-0.

"Baylor is one of the weaker teams," said A&M Coach Jan Baldwin. "But anytime you beat a (Southwest) conference team, it helps."

The dual-match victory in Waco leaves the women 22-14 overall and 2-1 in the SWC.

"We played well; we played hard," Baldwin said. "(The Baylor) win will be real important to us later on in SWC play."

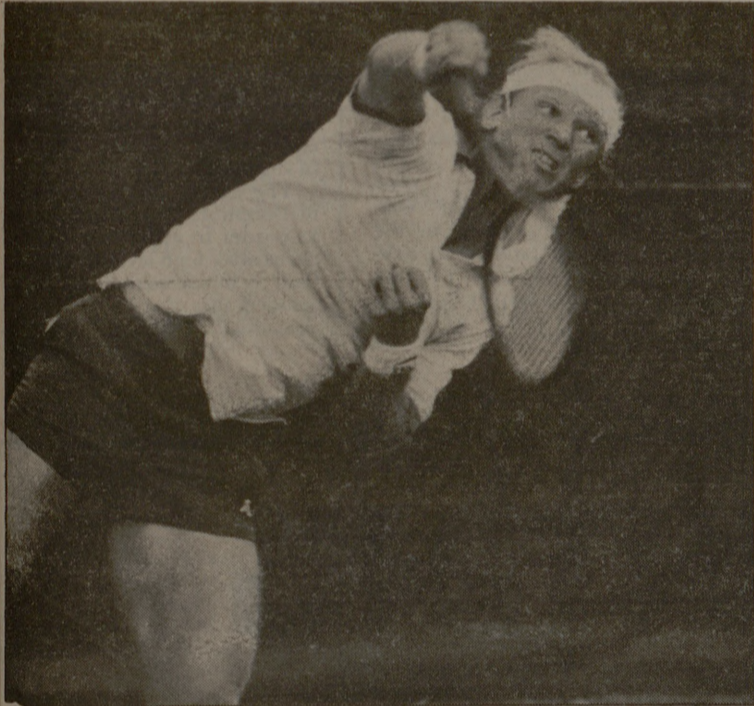


Photo by KARLA JAMES

Texas A&M's Greg Hill powers his serve over the net during his No. 1 singles victory over North Texas State's Paul Wagner Tuesday at the Omar Smith Tennis Center. The No. 7 Aggies powered past the Eagles, 9-0, to improve to 16-6 overall.

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