

SPORTS

A&M slips into poll to don No. 18

Four SWC foes join Ags in ESPN's Top 20

The Texas A&M baseball team broke back into the ESPN-Collegiate Baseball Top 20 poll at No. 18 after a convincing three-game sweep of then 10th-ranked Baylor, which dropped to No. 19 this week. The 35-11 Ags are one of five Southwest Conference teams represented in the rankings. Houston, currently first in the SWC, is the highest rated SWC team at No. 10. Arkansas is at No. 13 and Texas follows at No. 14.

The weekly ESPN-Collegiate Baseball Top 20 poll with team records in parentheses:

1. Stanford (28-9)
2. Miami, Fla. (44-9)
3. Wichita State (48-6)
4. Oklahoma State (34-10-1)
5. Oklahoma (35-6)
6. Pepperdine (33-7-1)
7. Louisiana State (29-9)
8. Michigan (24-5)
9. Oral Roberts (32-9)
10. Houston (35-6)
11. Mississippi State (28-9)
12. California (32-14)
13. Arkansas (29-9)
14. Texas (41-10)
15. Nebraska (27-12)
16. Florida (32-9)
17. Washington (24-2)
18. Texas A&M (35-11)
19. Baylor (36-9)
20. New Mexico (34-9)

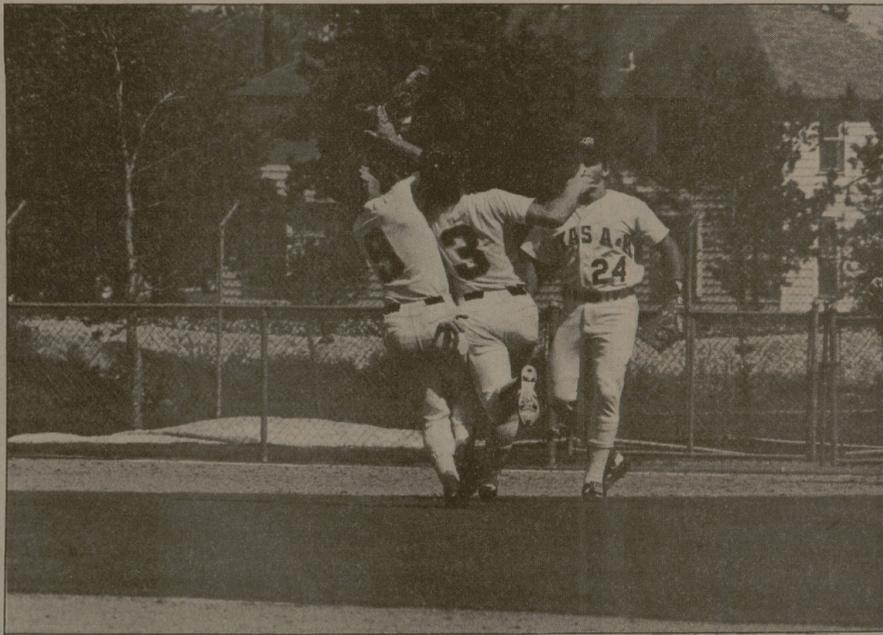


Photo by ANTONY S. CASPER

Siamese Aggies

Texas A&M shortstop Rob Swain (9) and third baseman Scott Livingstone (3) can't decide who called, "I've got it!" for this infield fly against Baylor Sunday, while first baseman Fred Gegan (24) opts not to take sides. A&M (35-11) hopes it won't be this confused when it resumes SWC action with a three-game series against Rice in Houston Friday.

Kings' court off to Sacramento

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Kansas City Kings, who began their National Basketball Association life in Rochester, N.Y., completed a 37-year transcontinental jaunt Tuesday when they were officially transferred to Sacramento, Calif.

The move of the Midwest Division's last-place team, which finished the season with a 31-51 record, was accomplished by a unanimous vote of the NBA owners, who ratified a decision made two weeks ago by a five-owner special committee.

"We're delighted at the prospect of an NBA team in Sacramento for the 1985-86 season," said Commissioner David J. Stern, who announced the move.

It will be the first major league professional team to be based in the California capital, with a population of 303,000 in a county with another 866,000 residents. It's located about 90 miles north of Oakland, home of another NBA franchise, the Golden State Warriors.

But the Kings will remain in the Midwest Division along with the Denver Nuggets, Houston Rockets, Dallas Mavericks, San Antonio Spurs and Utah Jazz rather than join the Warriors in the Pacific Division, which also includes the Los Angeles Lakers, Los Angeles Clippers, Phoenix Suns, Portland Trailblazers and Seattle Supersonics.

Gregg Lukenbill, who heads the Sacramento-based group that purchased the Kings in June 1983, said the team had already sold 8,200 tickets for next season, when it will play in a temporary 10,400-seat structure. It is building a 16,000-seat permanent structure to be ready by 1987-88, the year by which it must have additional seating or forfeit its franchise, Lukenbill said.

To Joe Axelson, the team's president and general manager, it's the perfect situation after a year in Kansas City in which the team drew about 5,000 fans per game. Lukenbill estimated the Kings have lost \$2.8 million in the last two years.

"I like Kansas City, but I have no great feeling of guilt about what we did," Axelson said. "I have a great feeling for the city, but Kansas City didn't support us — for whatever reason."

The Kings began life as the Rochester, N.Y., Royals in 1948, then moved to Cincinnati for the 1957-58 season. In 1972, they became the Kansas City-Omaha Kings, then dropped the Omaha designation in 1975.

Texas ends long drought, shocks Toronto

Associated Press

American League

Rangers 9, Blue Jays 4

TORONTO — Until a team wins its first game of the season Texas Manager Doug Rader believes there are lingering doubts about a club's potential.

The Rangers, after an 0-for-5 start to the 1985 season, showed Rader on Tuesday that there may indeed be hope for his team.

"Thank you, Lord," Rader sighed after the Rangers crushed the Toronto Blue Jays 9-4 in the Blue Jays' home opener. "There's always some

doubt in your mind until you get that first one.

"Until your pitcher gets his first win, until you hit your first home run; until you do all those things the first time, there's always a little bit of doubt in your mind."

The Rangers had to wait until the fifth inning before they got their first run Tuesday, and they promptly added three more in the same frame for good measure.

For Toronto Manager Bobby Cox, whose club opened the season with a split of its six-game road trip,

Major League Roundup

"It was just one of those days."

Catcher Buck Martinez of the Blue Jays said, "We didn't play good ball today. Anytime you leave runners in scoring position and make four errors you're not playing good baseball."

Run-scoring triples by Don Slaught and Pete O'Brien highlighted the Rangers' four-run fifth inning.

George Wright started the Ranger rally against loser Luis Leal, 0-1, with a single to right and Slaught then lashed his triple into the gap in

left-center field. One out later, Toby Harrah doubled and O'Brien drove his triple into the right-field corner. O'Brien scored on Larry Parrish's single.

The Rangers padded the lead to 6-3 in the seventh against Ron Muselman on RBI singles by Cliff Johnson and Buddy Bell. Gary Ward's RBI single in the eighth scored the seventh run and the last two scored in the eighth on Wright's RBI single and a sacrifice fly by Curtis Wilkerson.

Garcia's RBI grounder in the

ninth scored Toronto's final run.

Mason, 1-1, lasted six innings, giving up three runs on eight hits, walking three and striking out five. Dickie Noles went the final three for his first save.

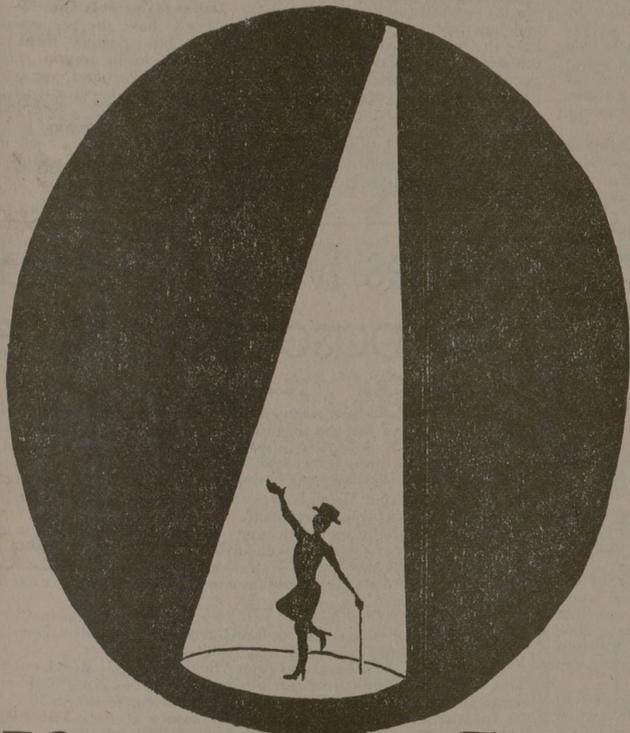
The loss, which dropped Toronto's record to 3-4, was only its second in nine home openers and the first in three years. A crowd of 41,284, the second-largest turnout in club history for a home opener, paid to see the game.

Tigers 2, Brewers 1

DETROIT — Alan Trammell drove in both runs with a homer and

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