

Sports

Mississippi State blows out Ags

A&M pitchers give up 17 runs on 17 hits

By TOM TAGLIABUE
Sports Writer

Mississippi State used two home runs each by Tracy Echols and Mike McCraney to power the Bulldogs to a 17-9 thrashing of Texas A&M at Olsen Field Tuesday night.

A season-high 2,755 fans were on hand to watch the Bulldogs attack four Aggie pitchers for 17 runs on 17 hits — a season high offensively for MSU.

Pat Wernig (3-1) took the loss for A&M, giving up the first seven MSU hits and first seven runs in 3½ innings of work.

Two of the seven hits Wernig allowed were the homers to McCraney in the first and third innings.

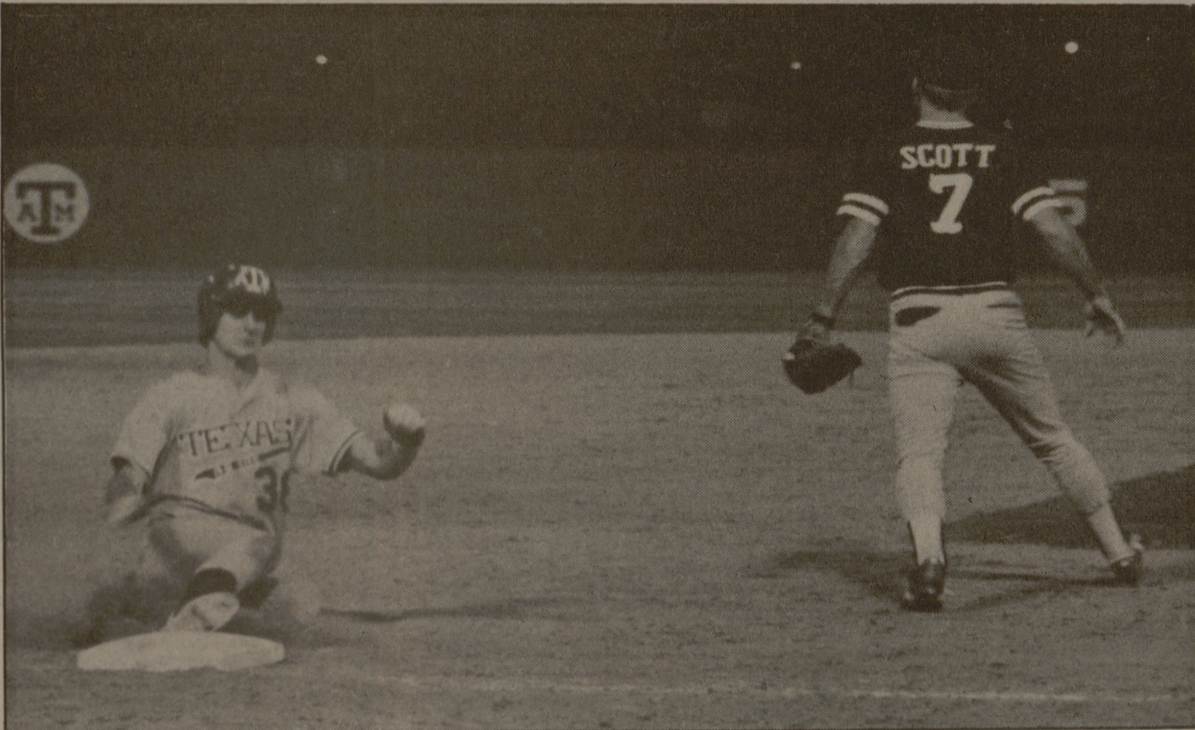
"We didn't pitch the ball well tonight and we got ourselves out of the ball game by the home run tonight," A&M Coach Mark Johnson said.

The Bulldogs (7-5) struck for three runs in the top of the first on McCraney's fourth homer of the year and then added two more in the third on his fifth homer. McCraney was 3-for-4 and drove in five runs.

A&M (16-8) finally got on the board in the bottom of the third when Jeff Schow singled to drive in Ever Magallanes, who was hit by a pitch and moved to second on an error by MSU's Tom Butt.

The Bulldogs continued to pick up the big hit in the fourth when they added two more to make it 7-1.

Jimmy Flowers came in to pitch for A&M and served up a grand slam home run to Echols, who had six RBI on the night. One out later, Flowers issued a walk to Roark Mc-



A&M first baseman Todd Schmidt slides safely into third in the seventh inning of last night's

game against Mississippi State. Schmidt's triple didn't make a difference as the Ags lost 17-9.

Photo by MIKE SANCHEZ

Donald and then an RBI triple to Brad Hildreth for an 11-1 lead.

The Aggies rallied back for two runs in the fifth on a Scott Livingstone double and Gary Geiger single.

And for the next three innings, things were looking up for the Aggies.

After giving up a lead off single in the sixth, Flowers was relieved by Russ Greene, who held the Bulldogs scoreless until the ninth.

The Ags kept chipping away at the MSU lead, scoring one run in the

sixth and seventh and two more runs in the eighth.

Maury Martin, the only A&M player with two hits on the night, picked up the first of his two RBI when he singled home Pat James, who had doubled to lead off the sixth.

Todd Schmidt swatted a two out triple to bring home Mike Scanlin and make it 12-5 in the seventh.

The Aggies made it 12-7 in the eighth on a Martin double which scored Chandler. Martin scored when Schow reached base on an error by first baseman John Mitchell.

But with the score 12-7 in the top of the ninth, the Bulldogs put the game away with five more runs, including a solo homer by Echols.

David Bruning relieved Greene and shut off the Bulldog rally with a double play.

The Aggies, who collected nine hits for the game, again started to chip away at the Bulldog lead, but as the cold front blew in, the Aggies blew out.

The rains came about three hours too late for the Aggies, who will finish the MSU series with a single game Wednesday at 3 p.m.

A&M women host Arkansas; men entertain North Carolina

After tough weekend matches on the road the Texas A&M women's tennis team looks to continue winning, while the men hope to get back on track.

The A&M women return to Southwest Conference play today when they host Arkansas at the Omar Smith Tennis Center at 1:30 p.m. The Aggie men play North Carolina at Bryan's Royal Oaks Racquet Club, also at 1:30 p.m.

The No. 23 Aggie women are currently 2-0 in the SWC and hope to notch another win after a successful Florida road trip which saw them handily beat Rollins, No. 25 South Florida and Mississippi.

The No. 21 A&M men beat No. 24 Kentucky in the opening round of the H.E.B. College Tennis Team Championships in Corpus Christi Thursday, but then dropped matches against No. 9 South Carolina, Cal-Berkeley and No. 19 Northeast Louisiana.

Blue Devils end 'first' season No. 1

Associated Press

Now comes the "harder" part. Duke, having finished atop the Associated Press' final college basketball poll, now embarks — along with 63 other teams — on the road to Dallas.

Recent history suggests they'll have a devil of a time holding on to their No. 1 position.

The Blue Devils, 32-2, were virtually the unanimous No. 1 selection by a nationwide panel of 64 sports writers and sports broadcasters, receiving 63 first-place votes and 1,279 points Tuesday. Kansas, 31-3, received the only other first-place vote.

Being picked No. 1 and proving it are two very different matters.

A year ago, Patrick Ewing-led Georgetown was the unanimous first choice and were all but conceded a second consecutive national championship. The Hoyas were beaten in the final by Villanova, which entered the tournament unranked.

Two years ago, North Carolina finished atop the poll, but it was Georgetown which finished first in the last game, beating Houston. The year before that, Houston was No. 1 in the poll but No. 2 in the tournament final to national-champion North Carolina State.

So it goes most of the time. Only

Top 20 Basketball Poll

Here are the Top 20 teams in the Associated Press college basketball poll with first-place votes in parentheses and season record through March 11:

1. Duke (63) — 32-2
2. Kansas (1) — 31-3
3. Kentucky — 29-3
4. St. John's — 30-4
5. Michigan — 27-4
6. Georgia Tech — 25-6
7. Louisville — 26-7
8. North Carolina — 26-5
9. Syracuse — 25-5
10. Notre Dame — 23-5
11. Nevada-Las Vegas — 31-4
12. Memphis St. — 27-5
13. Georgetown — 23-7
14. Bradley — 31-2
15. Oklahoma — 26-8
16. Indiana — 21-7
17. Navy — 27-4
18. Michigan St. — 21-7
19. Illinois — 21-9
20. Texas-El Paso — 27-5

two teams in the past 10 years — North Carolina in 1982 and Kentucky in 1978 — started and finished the tournament No. 1. DePaul (twice), Indiana State, Michigan — all

have fallen short of the ultimate goal, the national championship.

"I don't think anything in the season has been all that easy," Duke Coach Mike Krzyzewski said Tuesday. "So we've been through one hard part. Now we're going through another one, maybe a little harder."

Duke, the Atlantic Coast Conference champion, and Kansas, No. 1 in the Big Eight, are top seeds in their tournament regions.

Likewise, third-ranked Kentucky, the Southeastern Conference champion, and No. 4 St. John's, the champs of the Big East, are seeded first in their NCAA regions.

The top three berths in the poll were unchanged, but the Redmen moved up one notch in the final week. Last week's fourth-place team, North Carolina, winner of its first 21 games but the loser of five of its last 10 tumbled to eighth.

Michigan, 27-4, received 995 points for fifth place, up two notches from last week. Georgia Tech, which lost to Duke in the ACC title game, was sixth, followed by Louisville, North Carolina, Syracuse and Notre Dame.

In the final Second 10 are Nevada-Las Vegas, Memphis State, Georgetown, Bradley, Oklahoma, Indiana, Navy, Michigan State, Illinois and Texas-El Paso.

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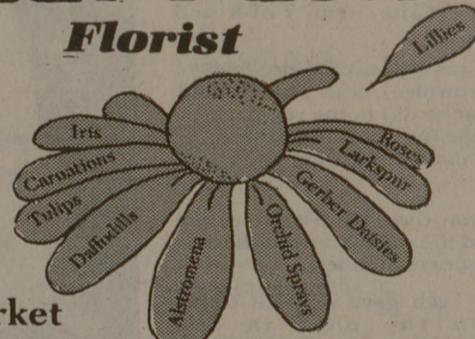
CATEGORIES: Collage, Pastel, Drawings, Paintings, and None of the Above (no photo entries will be taken).

Entries will be accepted in the MSC Gallery from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., March 25 to 28. The entry fee is \$4.00 per piece.

JUDGING DATE: 2:00 p.m., March 28, 1986

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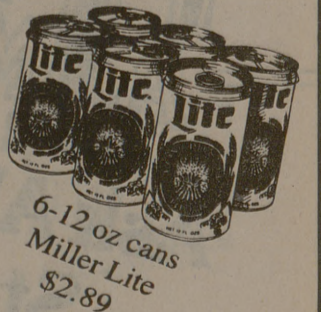
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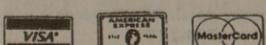


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