

# Sports

## A&M starts 1st round of UH tourney

By Doug Hall  
Sports Writer

Texas A&M hopes to regain its composure today in the first round of the All-American Invitational at Bear Creek Golf World in Houston.

After finishing a disappointing 11th place in last weekend's Henry Homberg Intercollegiate tournament, the Aggies

### Men's Golf

hope to rebound at the three-day tourney hosted by the University of Houston.

"(No. 1) Oklahoma State (which finished first in the Homberg Invitational) is definitely the team to beat," A&M Coach Bob Ellis said. "Houston and TCU are playing well and Arkansas and Texas will also be there from the Southwest Conference."

"When you talk about the best in the SWC, you're talking about the best in the country."

Ellis said the Aggies need to play more consistently.

"They're not really where I'd like to see them at this time of the year," Ellis said. "But I think we're coming along."

Ellis cited last weekend's final round as an example of A&M's inconsistency.

All-American Paul Mayo, who led the Ags with a three-day total of 209, fired a final round 64 to break the tourney's individual round record. But, as a team, A&M failed to break par for the day.

Mayo, who finished third at the All-American tourney last year, hopes to carry last week's momentum to Houston this week.

"It's rather difficult to follow a (round of) 64," Mayo said, "but that round really boosted my confidence. I hope to do at least as well as I did last year."

# A&M does about-face, rips North Texas

By Tom Tagliabue  
Sports Writer

Texas A&M did a complete turnaround from last night's matchup with North Texas State and blasted the Eagles, 12-3, in the final game of the non-conference series at Olsen Field Wednesday.

A&M battered NTSU starter Bill George for 11 runs in 3 1/2 innings, while the Aggie defense, which committed six errors in Tuesday's nightcap, misplayed only one ball Wednesday.

### Baseball

The Aggies, 24-17 and ranked No. 25 in the *Collegiate Baseball/ESPN* poll, jumped on the Eagles, 8-29, for five runs in the first inning.

A&M's Don Wren led off the bottom of the first with a single and stole second. Ever Magallanes walked and Scott Livingstone singled to load the bases for Mike Scanlin, who then singled to drive in Wren.

Fred Gegen followed with an RBI ground out before Pat James reached base on a fielding error by NTSU's Keith Cullum, which brought home Livingstone.

Aggie designated hitter Gary Geiger's RBI sacrifice fly and Maury Martin's RBI double drove in the final two first-inning runs.

A&M added two more runs in the third on Geiger's third home run of the year, which came with James aboard.

The Aggies chased George, 1-8, from the game in the fourth when they collected four more runs.

Scanlin's two-run homer off the scoreboard in left-center field broke the A&M record for most home runs in a season with 15.

Geiger, who went 2-for-3 with three RBI for the game, ended George's outing with a double to the gap in left-center. Tim James entered and gave up an RBI ground out to Martin and an RBI double to Tim Parma.

A&M freshman David Jones, in his first start on the mound this season, cruised through four innings

before allowing two runs in the top of the fifth.

Aggie pitchers David Bruning, Ed Perez and Barry Smith followed Jones and held the Eagles scoreless until the ninth when Jeff Tallo slapped a pinch-hit home run off Smith for NTSU's final run. Bruning, 1-0, got the win in relief.

Scanlin, A&M's senior captain, said the win was a good confidence builder for the Aggies going into this weekend's Southwest Conference series with 23rd-ranked Texas Tech, which stands first in the conference.

"Coming back from a sloppy game (last night against NTSU) to have our sticks go off (and bat well) is a good confidence builder going into the Tech series," Scanlin said.

"We don't ever doubt ourselves, as far as what we're capable of doing. We're kinda rocky-road. I'm not sure what it is."

"We play well and then we play not so well. But now we're picking up. Hopefully we can carry that on in the Tech series, which I think we will."

A&M Coach Mark Johnson said this series was good for getting the team ready for the meat of the conference schedule.

"We wanted to keep everybody fine-tuned that we want to evaluate so we can see where everybody is at," Johnson said. "Once you start conference series, some of those guys don't get to pitch that you have ready. So they need to throw on a Tuesday. That's why you have Tuesday games."

"If one of your top relievers doesn't get to pitch, he needs to stay tuned. Of course that's what we're trying to do — see a lot of different (players)."

A&M will get a day of rest before it battles Tech for first place in the SWC. The Aggies are 4-2, while the Red Raiders are 5-1.

Friday's single game begins at 7 p.m. and 1,000 painter's caps will be given away to fans at the Olsen Field gates. Saturday's double-header begins at 1 p.m.



A&M's Don Wren, right, steals second base as North Texas State's Keith Cullum, left, awaits the

throw from the catcher. The Aggies downed the Eagles Wednesday at Olsen Field, 12-3.

Photo by Dean Saito

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