

Sports

A&M golfers capture SWC championship

From Staff and Wire Reports
ATASCOCITA (AP) — Three Texas A&M golfers fired sub-par rounds Sunday as the Aggies overcame a 10-stroke deficit and captured the Southwest Conference golf championship.

The Aggies' sizzling 6-under-par 278 over the final 18 holes gave them a three-day total of 853, one over par for the tournament.

After the first two days, the University of Houston seemed destined to give coach Dave Williams his 11th spring SWC championship. Houston led second-place Arkansas by four strokes and Texas by seven strokes.

But the Cougars stumbled to a 6-over-par 290 on Sunday. Houston lost 12 shots to the Aggies and finished tied for second with Arkansas, two shots behind A&M.

"I feel fantastic," A&M Coach Bob Ellis said. "I knew if we had a good round, we'd have a good chance of winning."

Sophomore Roy Mackenzie led A&M down the stretch with a 3-under-par 68. Junior Neil Hickerson shot a 69, freshman Randy

Lee a 70 and senior Randy Wyle an even-par 71, along with junior Gary Gilchrist.

"The golf pro there said it looked like we were about four shots behind Houston going into the final round," Ellis said. "I didn't want to tell the players that because I wanted them to continue playing well."

Individually, Houston's Tray Tyner won the 1987 SWC medalist title. Tyner shot a 65 and carded a two-under 71 on Sunday.

"I thought one of the big keys for our players down the stretch was the fact they didn't have to go head-to-head with the leaders," said Ellis, whose fourth-place team at the start of the day already was in the clubhouse before Houston, Arkansas and Texas had reached the 18th green.

"Our people just had to sit back and play their game, and that's what they did. You've got to give this group a lot of credit. It seems they've been battling back in the last few tournaments and good things have happened for us."

It marked the 10th time the Aggies have won the conference title. They last won the title in 1982.

Longhorns take 2-of-3 from Aggies A&M wins third game to clinch tourney berth

By Homer Jacobs
Sports Editor

The Texas A&M-Texas baseball series at Olsen Field this weekend was a three-game set that was determined by out-pitching and pitching out.

The Aggies fell to the Longhorns in the first game Friday night 8-2 as UT's Curt Krippner (9-0) took the mound and gave up only five hits.

And the final game of the series saw A&M's Gary Geiger handling UT batsmen in a 10-3 drubbing of the top-ranked Longhorns.

But the game was the second affair, which featured the play of the series.

With A&M trailing Texas 10-4 in the bottom of the sixth inning of a seven-inning game, the fireworks began. Shortstop Ever Magallanes, who went 8-for-13 for the series, fueled the fire with a three-run homer over the left-field fence.

The first homer of the year for Magallanes capped a five-run rally that positioned A&M with a 10-9 deficit going into the last half of the final inning.

Aggie first baseman Jim Neumann led off the inning with a walk, and pinch-runner Andy Duke then made it to third on a wild pickoff attempt by Texas pitcher Steve Cantu.

After pinch-hitter Tim McWilliam grounded out, the Aggies and A&M Coach Mark Johnson were faced with a one-out situation and No. 9 hitter Maury Martin at the plate.

With the count 1-1, Johnson called for the sacrifice squeeze, and the Texas dugout called for a pitch-out. The pitchout won as Duke was tagged out, enabling the Longhorns to grab the 10-9 win.

Johnson said the squeeze situation is a guessing game, and Texas just picked the right count for the pitch-out.

"You can look back and kill yourself," he said. "I called the squeeze, and they guessed right."

Johnson also said there was no sign-stealing on the Longhorns' part.

"I don't think they did at all," he

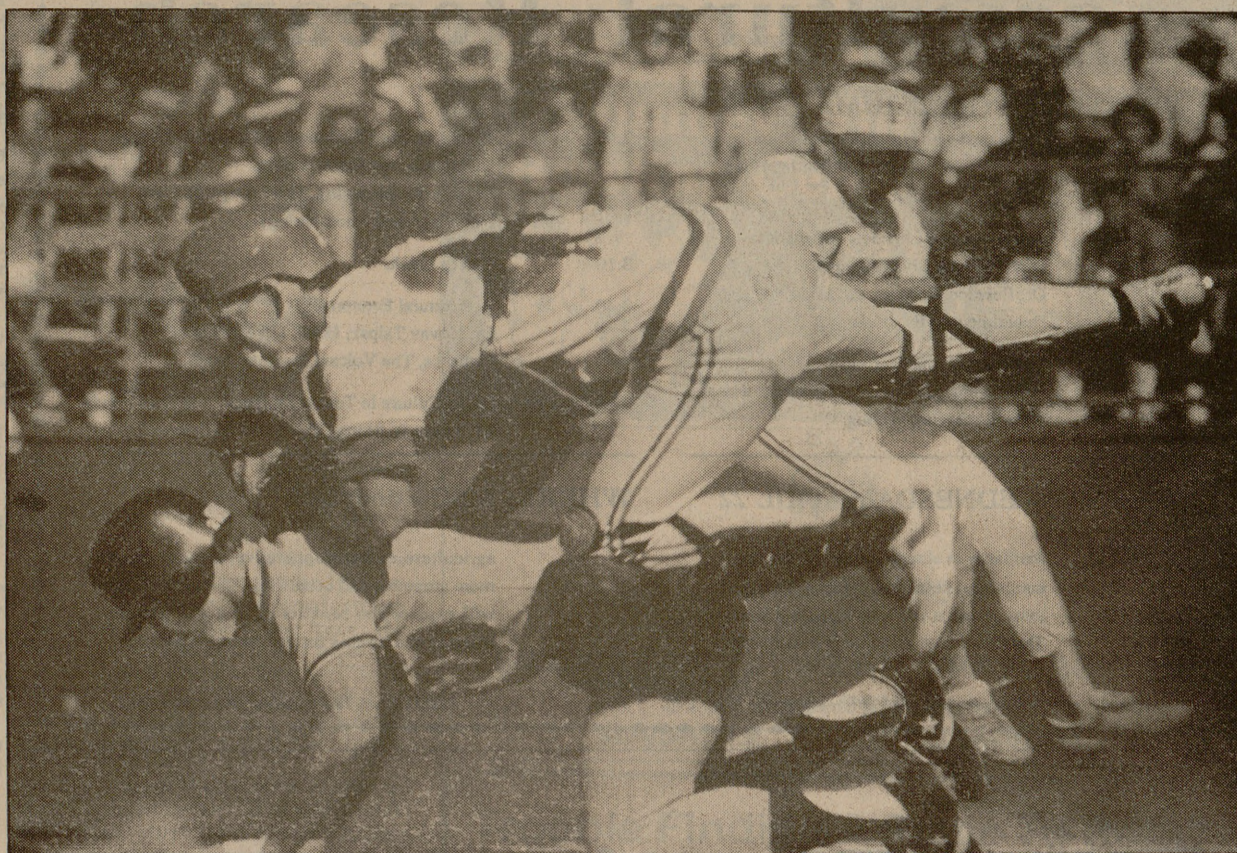


Photo by Bill Hughes

Texas A&M pinch-runner Andy Duke is tagged out by UT catcher Brian Johnson during the seventh

inning of the first game of Saturday's double-header at Olsen Field. Texas won 10-9.

Astros, Scott take 1st game; Reds, Power grab second

CINCINNATI (AP) — Kal Daniels hit his fifth homer and scored twice, and Ted Power held Houston to five hits over 6½ innings Sunday to give the Cincinnati Reds a 6-2 victory and a double-header split with the Astros.

Houston won the first game 7-3 as Bill Doran drove in three runs with a pair of homers and Mike Scott and Larry Andersen stopped the Reds on three hits. One of the hits was a homer by Daniels.

Power, 2-0, gave up a two-run homer to Billy Hatcher in the first

inning of the nightcap, then kept Houston hitless until Hatcher doubled in the sixth.

Hatcher's homer, his second, extended his hitting streak to a career-high 13 games, and he went 5-for-10 for the day to boost his average to .481.

Scott, last year's National League Cy Young Award winner, dominated the Reds in the opener, allowing just three hits and two walks before leaving with a stiff back after the seventh inning.

said. "I gave a false sign about six times. I'd given Maury the false signs twice."

Although A&M lost a heart-breaker, the Aggies did clinch a berth in the SWC Post-Season Baseball Tournament along with Texas, Arkansas and Houston.

A&M's record is now 37-16-1 overall and 10-5 in conference play.

Texas upped its season mark to 46-8 and 13-2 in the SWC.

The Aggies' victory was the first over the Longhorns in the last 11 tries, but the whole series seemed to be a moral victory for A&M players as well.

"I think we realized we can play with them," said Geiger, who picked up his ninth win of the year.

Magallanes said the victory in the

final game was a relief of sorts to the squad.

"It gets the monkey off our back to finally beat Texas," he said. "It will definitely give us a boost for the tournament."

Johnson reiterated Magallanes' remarks.

"It did our players good to see them get beat," he said. "That helps a bunch, probably more than people realize."

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