

# Sports

## Ags' Wilson prefers to let deeds speak for him

By Tom Mulos  
Reporter

He doesn't get very excited at Texas A&M football games, yet Matt Wilson is considered to be one of the best centers in the Southwest Conference.

"There's no real reason to get upset or excited," Wilson said. "I'm not a very excitable player. I can't sit there before a game and yell and scream. I've got to joke around."

Wilson is a 6-5, 275-pound senior agronomy major from Spring. He was highly recruited out of high school and decided to come to A&M because of the traditions and the fact that it is close to home. He is a member of Head Coach Jackie Sherrill's first recruiting class which he thinks is special.

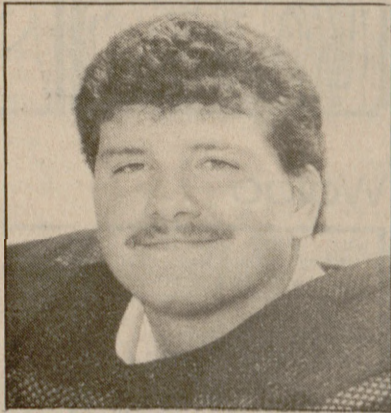
Wilson has started 30 of the last 31 games for the Aggies starting with the 37-12 win over Texas in

1984. The only game he sat out was the Rice game last year because of a knee injury received during the Houston game. As it turned out, the Aggies didn't miss him because they won easily, 45-10.

His knee continued to trouble him the rest of the season. He would walk very slowly to class the week after a game. Going up a flight of stairs, he would have to take them one step at a time.

"I thought I had played with pain while I was in high school, but nothing compared to playing hurt last year," Wilson said.

Offensive Coordinator Lynn Amedee said: "Matt is a very durable player. He plays hurt all the time. In the Houston game last year, he went down because of his knee. That didn't keep him out. He went right back in there."



Matt Wilson

At the end of the season, he underwent arthroscopic knee surgery. During the spring and summer semesters, Wilson spent lots of time in the weight room trying to get his knee back in shape.

"My knee is holding up a lot better than last year. All I need is a little rest between games and it's OK for another game," Wilson said.

Talking to him, one would not think that he had a care in the world. He doesn't let his knee problems get him down.

"They (the players) know he's going to stay in there and fight," Amedee said. "They respect him for that. If we go into battle, as they always say, you would want to make sure he's in the foxhole with you because he simply takes care of his business. He's just that kind of person."

Take him off the football field and he is a different kind of person. He is not the aggressive football-player type.

After winning two consecutive conference championships and

going to the Cotton Bowl two years straight, the Aggies got off to a slow start. But, after beating Baylor last week 34-10, maybe the Aggies have turned the corner.

Wilson said: "Everybody is out to get you when you're a winner. It makes you a target for everyone and that makes the job that much tougher. I thought Baylor would give us a better game than they did. But then again, we played better than we have in the past weeks."

Wilson has taken the challenge of playing in the Southwest Conference and become one of the best linemen in the conference. But his talents are not just noticed around the conference. He will be playing in the Senior Bowl and is going to accept the opportunity to play in the East-West Shrine Game.

He said being a student and an athlete makes life pretty tough.

"The first couple of years want to place football first and academics second which causes grades to suffer," Wilson said. "Then, you get used to having manage your time and the game come up."

But add the responsibility of marriage and one would think he'd get even tougher. Matt has been married to Melissa for one year seven months.

"Now, I have one more person to share my time with," Wilson said. "I admit that I haven't spent as much time as I would like with her, but she understands. It didn't make it harder. I'd do it again if I had."

After college, he would like to play in the National Football League. But will his knees hold up? "Well, money does a lot of things," Wilson said.

Amedee said: "He is a good and a very sound individual. He wants to."

## Cards shell Twins to even Series at 2

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Tom Lawless' three-run homer triggered a six-run romp as the St. Louis Cardinals caught fourth-inning fever and burned the Minnesota Twins 7-2 Wednesday night, tying the World Series at two games apiece.

Lawless' first home run since 1984 and second of his major-league career helped chase Game 1 winner Frank Viola, matching his quickest exit in 40 starts this season.

The Cardinals, overpowered in the first two games as Minnesota scored a total of 13 runs in the fourth inning, showed they can play that way, too, combining four hits and three walks in that inning for a 7-1 bulge.

St. Louis also raised more questions about the Twins' ability to win on the road. Minnesota won just nine games away from the Metrodome after the All-Star break be-

fore taking two in Detroit in the playoffs.

Jim Lindeman, joining Lawless as one of the productive replacement Cardinals, had two RBI singles among St. Louis' nine hits off four Minnesota pitchers.

Ken Dayley protected the lead by retiring Gary Gaetti and Tom Brunansky with the bases loaded to end the seventh. Dayley got a save in relief of Bob Forsch, who went 2 2/3 innings in relief and got his first World Series victory in four decisions.

Game 5 will be Thursday night with Bert Blyleven, the winner in the second game, pitching for the Twins. Either Danny Cox or Joe Magrane, each of them losers so far in the Series, will start for St. Louis.

Lawless, a little-used reserve whom Cincinnati traded even-up to Montreal for Pete Rose in 1984, got the Cardinals even with the biggest hit of his career.

Tony Pena drew a leadoff walk in the fourth and Jose Oquendo followed with a single. That brought up Lawless, who made just three starts during the regular season but was making his third start in the postseason because of an injury to third baseman Terry Pendleton.

Lawless lofted an 0-1 pitch high over the left-field fence, setting off a fireworks display over Busch Stadium and in the crowd of 55,347.

Viola, seemingly bothered by the 42-degree temperature at the start of the game, kept blowing on his hand to keep warm while the Cardinals kept hitting.

Coleman walked one out later and Viola left. With Dan Schatzeder pitching, Coleman stole his fourth base of the Series and Tommy Herr was intentionally walked with two outs.

Lindeman, who singled home St. Louis' tying run in the third, hit an-

other RBI single and Willie McGee lined a two-run double.

Lawless went 2-for-25 during the regular season and was hitless until mid-August despite spending the whole year with the Cardinals. He is now 3-for-13 in the postseason. Lindeman, a .208 hitter during the season, is 8-for-20 in the postseason while filling in mostly for injured Jack Clark.

Viola, who gave up one run on five hits in eight innings of the opener, simply did not have it while pitching on three days' rest for the fifth time this year. Viola went to a three-ball count only once in Game 1 but went there twice alone in the second inning.

Cardinals starter Greg Mathews, pitching for the first time in 10 days since pulling a muscle in his right leg during the playoffs, also struggled as the temperature dropped into the 30s.

## World Series weather hard on players, fans

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Minnesota Twins and St. Louis Cardinals should be at their best in the World Series. That's not easy out at the cold ball game.

Batters can't hit. Fans can't cheer. Even Commissioner Peter Ueberroth couldn't handle a grounder.

"Baseball was meant to be played in warm weather," Greg Mathews, the Cardinals' Game 4 starter, said. "No one likes to pitch in the cold."

Instead, the middle three games of the World Series are coming during the chilliest nights of the fall in St. Louis. It is freezing, really.

Domes might offend purists, but some views are changing 180

degrees as ballpark temperatures are forecast to drop into the 30s. There may be snow in Minnesota, but it's 70 degrees inside the Metrodome.

What a great time for a short season, or the first indoor Series. "I lost my feet and toes a couple of times," Twins third baseman Gary Gaetti said.

At the start of Game 3 Tuesday night, it was a brisk 49 degrees. By the end, the temperature had dipped into the upper 30s.

Portable heaters were in both dugouts as St. Louis won 3-1, cutting the Twins' lead to 2-1. Cardinals third base coach Nick Leva wore gloves throughout the night.

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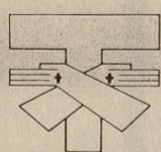
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