

Brenham schoolboy sets win record Peters strikes out 15 for 34th straight victory

BRENHAM (AP) — Rifle-armed on Peters ripped through his opponents' lineup Tuesday with 15 strikeouts and set a national high school baseball record for most consecutive career victories by a pitcher.

Mixing a lively fastball with sharp curves on a mild Texas night, the 17-year-old Brenham High School right-hander claimed his 34th straight career victory against Conroe Oak Ridge with a 5-0 one-hit win.

"I was just glad to get it over," said the soft-voiced junior of the final strikeout in the seven-inning game. "One swing, you know, and it could have been a home run."

"This is the biggest thrill of my career," said Peters, who has never lost a high school game since starting as a freshman in 1986.

About 1,200 fans, many in the green and white of the Brenham Cubs, crammed every seat in Fireman's Park and cheered wildly at the final out.

Peters' teammates rushed the field and hoisted him on their shoulders as out-of-town cameras blinked and TV lights followed.

It was the largest crowd since Houston Astros fastballer Nolan Ryan appeared here for Alvin High School in the 1960s.

Non-paying fans crowded on an adjacent elevated railroad track.

Peters had a no-hitter through 6½ innings.

He now has 80 strikeouts in 41 innings, having given up only two earned runs and 15 hits for an earned-run average of 0.44.

Peters' mother is an elementary school physical teacher, and his father is a math teacher at Blinn Junior College in Brenham.

Local enthusiasts say Peters has only lost two games in his career, both in youth baseball before high school. One was in the state finals as a teen-ager, and the other was against Taiwan in the national Little League World Series.

As a freshman in 1986, Peters posted a 13-0 record with a 1.97 earned-run average. The Cubs won the state championship in their classification with a 30-3 record. During his sophomore year, Peters had a 15-0 record with a 1.07 earned-run average, and the Cubs went 28-2 in

winning their second straight state title.

The Brenham bats began the game in silence, keeping the outcome in doubt until the fifth inning. The Cubs had outscored their first three league opponents 56-3 and were ranked No. 1 in their classification in the Texas high school coaches' poll.

With Tuesday's victory, the Cubs improved their 1988 record to 19-3 overall and 4-0 in league play.

With a crouched delivery similar to fastballer Ryan's, the 6-foot-1, 195-pound Peters beat a record held since 1977 by Mike Pill of West Covina High School in Edgewood, Calif., as recorded by the National Federation of State High School Associations headquartered in Kansas City.

Conroe Oak Ridge, 6-8, threatened in the second inning after an infield error, a walk and a forceout to put runners at second and third. Peters, who struck out Oak Ridge's first four batters, got the final out with a high, tight fastball for a swinging third strike.

The Cubs, two-time defending

state champions in Class 4A, the state's second-highest enrollment classification, finally gave Peters the runs he needed with a two-out, fifth-inning rally that began with a run-scoring triple by Sean Cooper, nephew of major leaguer Cecil Cooper.

Three hits later, the Cubs had three runs.

Pinch-hitter Jim Kruse, son of a co-owner of Brenham's famous Blue Bell Dairies, put the game out of reach with a two-run single in the bottom of the sixth.

Peters survived a bases-loaded seventh-inning stirring by Oak Ridge. He struck out the first batter to raucous cheers, but the second batter reached on an error. Then came the first hit, an opposite-field grounder slapped just inside third base, and then a walk.

The third baserunner was caught in a rundown when he attempted to score on a ball that was dropped by the catcher, and Peters struck out the final batter.

Sidekicks finish best home season

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Sidekicks have completed their best home season ever, but problems between the players and owners of the Major Indoor Soccer League teams may make all of the work of the past five months meaningless.

The Sidekicks defeated Minnesota 4-2 Sunday to give them a 22-6 home record, best in club history. The defending MISL champions drew 15,198 fans at Reunion Arena, which has a capacity of 16,824 for soccer, to the final home game.

They finished the home season with an average of 9,878 fans, a 14.4 percent increase over last season.

With two games remaining in the regular season, the Sidekicks are tied with Cleveland for second place in the MISL Eastern Division.

But the end of the regular season could mean the end of the season and possibly the end of the road for the MISL because of a disagreement between players and owners over management's proposed salary cap.

Team owners have given the players' union until Friday to agree to a

salary-cap reduction from \$1.275 million to \$898,000.

The owners say if the players do not agree to the salary cap, they will fold the league without holding playoffs.

Eddie Radwanski, player representative for the Sidekicks, says dealings with union officials have been "very frustrating."

"It makes me upset because I feel like I'm dealing with a bunch of amateurs," he said.

"They're just up there playing a

game, but the game they're playing with is our employment.

"If we have to go up there and ring some heads, it will get worked out."

Talks were held Monday, and other discussions are expected throughout the week in an effort to keep the MISL in operation.

The talks were between MISL Commissioner Bill Kentling and union leader John Kerr.

A troubled evening in the world of sports

By Hal L. Hammons
Assistant Sports Editor

It's 11:42 p.m. in College Station, and the sports desk is all aflutter with distress. It seems there is basically nothing happening in the outside world, sportwise.

Big deal, one might say. Well, when we have to fill a huge chunk of the paper with random sports stuff and there is considerably more space than stuff, well, there are words for that kind of situation that don't belong in a family newspaper. Or even *The Battalion*.

Perhaps the problem is that we don't have enough sports here. I don't know, . . . maybe there should be a professional field hockey team here — the College Station Cyclone, perhaps? — that could pack the Kyle Field bleachers on such balmy Tuesday nights as tonight.

Perhaps we should have sent a reporter to cover the intramural softball playoffs. I know I was involved in a game before I came to work that was worthy of, well, at least four or five column inches. You know the kind — lots of mistakes early, fighting back with character and determination, two runs in the bottom of the last to pull out the "W," etc., etc.

If the *Battalion* advertising department had sold a few more ads, you could be looking at *Sports Illustrated's* lovely *Elle MacPherson* trying to get you to buy a skin magazine that's pretending to be a travel-and-fashion magazine under the title of a sports magazine. But NOOOOO!

Of course, if someone had gone on a mad shooting spree on the *Fightin' Texas Aggie* golf course Tuesday, there would be no problem. The ever-innovative *Batt* sports gurus could have fit that into the boundaries of sports news. I can see the headline: "Frustrated golfer turns tables — puts hole in balls." Or maybe "12-gauge scores hole-in-one on Ag links." Hmm.

It's about now that the staff starts regretting not sending a staff member to cover the Texas Relays last weekend in Austin. Sitting through a downpour for hours before hearing that A&M had withdrawn its team from the competition could make one kicking personal experience column. Woes of sports journalism, how far to go when pursuing a career, effects of rain on water-soluble ink and water-permeable paper, ad nauseum.

You see, it's not all press-box seats and lunch with Jackie here, no matter what you might have

been told. We work hard for the "money." Oh yes, rumor has it that we are compensated monetarily for this legalized slavery. My friends over at Lamar Savings have yet to see much evidence of that, but our upper-echelon staffers insist that it is so. Who am I to argue, a lowly sports peon in the kick-in-the-crotch world of collegiate journalism?

Do you think it's easy making an interesting tidbit of information out of an interview with some athlete with the charisma of an major kitchen appliance? Let me give you an example:

"Well, we didn't play up to our potential but you gotta give them credit they played hard and they deserved to win and my performance wasn't up to par but we know we are good and we will rebound from this setback and be ready for the next game and it's going to be a tough one because now here we are in State 2-48 but they have a lot of talented people and they're raising a program and they've given a lot of tough teams difficulty we're going to have to have strong showings from offense and defense to get out with a victory."

And I'm trying to write that down manually from a standing position while I try to think of another question to ask when he quits. A question to which he might have a real answer.

And then we get up to the newsroom — the Battcave, as I affectionately call it. Staffers slave away in front of smoking cathode ray tubes trying to effectively convey the importance to the free world of Joe Blow's spiel on the possible uses for nuclear waste in tomorrow's agricultural community. Not a pretty sight.

In the meantime sundry people call up the newsroom for the most ridiculous information, like what some guy's phone number is. Only a strong desire to uphold what few good relations exist between students and the student press keeps me from asking, "You know, you could figure that one out yourself with a student directory and a couple hours of Sesame Street."

Honestly, all these people complain about athletes having IQs and hat sizes of approximately equivalent values. I've met a lot of athletes, in all strata of the sporting spectrum, and each one of them seemed to have a basic grasp on the concepts of alphabetic and numeric sequencing.

But I'm not complaining. None of them have called tonight, and my precious memories of them have allowed me to stretch this story to fit the hole allotted by my illustrious editor. Thank you, guys.

12th Man Sports

Cycling enthusiasts ride in Bicycle Classic

By Doug Walker
Reporter

Local cyclists joined members of the Texas A&M cycling team and other racers from around the state and the southwest in the Aggie Land Bicycle Classic held in cold, windy weather Sunday at the Texas A&M Research Park.

Cyclists competed in six races of varying distances in the open and collegiate categories in the event sanctioned by the United States Cycling Federation (USCF).

Racers competed in the collegiate events for individual and team points that help the teams qualify for the national meet later this year.

Teams representing Southwest conference schools and colleges from surrounding states made up the 18-team collegiate field.

The meet has been held for the past few years as the Aggie Land Stage Race and was changed from a stage format to a criterium race this year, according to Judd Micheal, A&M cycling club president.

In the stage format racers compete in races over a span of two days with winners determined by aggregate times in those races.

A criterium race is a one-day event in which racers only race once.

A&M racers were competitive in the collegiate division as A&M's Annette Wolfe won the women's 20.4-mile race ahead of Roxana Fugleberg of Oklahoma and Stephanie Green of Rice.

The men's races consisted of events covering 25.5 and 40 miles.

Rice's Wendell Loyd captured the men's B title in the 25.5-mile event as Erick Lind of Baylor took second and Kelly Fuelle of Texas Tech was third. A&M's finishers were led by Charles Hogan in fourth place. Other Aggie finishers were Doug McCord in seventh place, Phil Burkhalter in 11th and Chris Bartholomew in 14th.

The men's A (40 miles) title was won by Oklahoma's Randy Root with Texas Tech's Richard Walker in second and Texas' Sammy Coulotta getting third. A&M's Eric Waldheim was in a position to win the race with less than 100 yards to go, but he fell and finished sixth.

Other A&M racers were Scott Rost (8th), Judd Michael (11th place) and Dave Cowger (12th).

The open races were designed to spark local interest in cycling according to Robb Harris, a meet volunteer and former A&M team member.

"Citizens' races get the public

acquainted with what real racing is like and help publicize the sport," Harris said.

In the women's 7.2-mile open race, Melinda Jones took first with Andy Darby coming in second and Lynne Sonju taking third place.

Men competed in two open races covering distances of 18 and 20 miles. In the 18-mile event, Lazzlo Szatze was first, followed by Philip Baker in second and Stacy Sackey in third.

Steve Corsano, a local rider, won the open 20-mile race ahead of Eric Holloway and Dan Koser.

The cold weather had some effect on the number of spectators for the races, but did not affect racer attendance, according to Race Director Dennis Tang.

"We expected better weather and more spectators, but the weather hasn't affected racer turnout," Tang said. "We still had a good number of racers. We had close to 200 entries. We had 20 to 25 entries in the women's collegiate and open races and about 50 riders for both men's collegiate and open races."

"This is mainly a group effort of the club and we couldn't have done it without the help of the whole cycling team."

Lori Anderson, race promoter and marketing director, said outside sponsorship enabled the team to raise about \$2,500 and set a foundation for future races in coming years.

"In the long term we want to build on it. We'll definitely have sponsors for next year and we will make a progress report for the major sponsors to keep them posted on the plans for the next race," she said.

USCF sponsorship was needed to keep the club's sanctioning by the federation so they can continue to compete for national USCF titles.

"We need to have one race each year sponsored by the USCF to keep our USCF sanction. We're monitoring the turnout to see if we will have another race later this summer," Anderson said.

Cyclists competed for trophies for the first three places as well as ribbons, cash and various prizes for leading prime laps in the races.

The prime laps are designed to make the pace more rapid and tighten the field of racers, Harris said.

Sponsors for the event included 24 Hour Gyms of Texas, Zephyr Club, KKYS-FM, Gold's Gym and Aggie Land Schwinn. These sponsors were among many who supplied prizes for the competitors.

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 Categories will be further subdivided between color and B/W.
 Ribbons will be awarded to all winners including two best-of-shows.
 Entries will be accepted from April 1st through 13th at the MSC Craft Center 845-1631 (Basement MSC).
 Restrictions: All Photos must be mounted. 8 X 10 is standard format. No larger photos will be accepted. Competition is open to Texas A&M students only. No Entry Fee. Limit two entries per person.
 Judging will take place on Friday April 15th. Winners will also be placed in the MSC Showcase. Judges: Mr. Howard Eilers, Mr. Paul Glenn, Dr. Simon Priest

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