

Top-ranked Aggies sweep Bears to share SWC lead

A&M wins 7th in row; season record now 33-1

By Tom Kehoe

SPORTS WRITER

Coach Mark Johnson's top-ranked Texas Aggies upped their record to 33-1 as they took three games from the Baylor Bears in Southwest Conference play at Olsen Field over the weekend.

The sweep gives A&M 19 consecutive victories over Baylor. A&M is tied with Arkansas for the SWC lead.

Aggie Update

• **Score:** A&M sweeps Baylor by scores of 10-3, 9-8 and 12-2.

• **Record:** 33-1.

• **Ranking:** First.

• **Next game:** Tuesday night vs. Sam Houston State.

with a 6-0 mark in conference play. Baylor dropped to 27-9 and 4-5 in the SWC.

It was a record-setting series for two Aggies as they established new team marks.

Junior shortstop Chuck Knoblauch established a new single season

stolen base record as he garnered his 27th steal of the year. His total leads the conference.

Senior outfielder Kirk Thompson eclipsed former Aggie All-American Scott Livingstone's consecutive-game hitting streak as he stroked a single in the second game of Sunday's doubleheader extending his streak to 23 games.

In the first game of the series Friday night, the Aggies collected 10 hits enroute to a 10-3 victory before their first home sellout of the season. Knoblauch led A&M as he went three for five at the plate and stole three bases. Junior lefthander Pat Sweet went the distance posting six strikeouts along the way to his sixth victory.

The series' second game was a more difficult affair for the Aggies. The Bears hung in for 10 innings before catcher Eric Albright laid down a suicide squeeze bunt that scored Terry Taylor to give A&M the 9-8 win.

Johnson felt calling for the bunt was the best option for the situation.

"You get late in a ballgame and you have to give it a shot," Johnson said. "We're hitting about .800 on

drag bunts."

Albright said bunt or not, an Aggie win wasn't far off.

"No one worries about losing," Albright said. "We know we're going to win sooner or later."

It was a big game for Albright. Aside from providing the game-winning bunt, he rounded the bases to score off a triple to deep center and was waved home after an error.

The Aggies went through three pitchers in the contest. Bullpen ace

SWC Baseball Standings

Team	SWC Record	Pct.
Texas A&M (33-1)	6	1.000
Arkansas (27-4)	6	0.857
Texas (33-10)	4	0.666
Baylor (27-9)	4	0.544
Houston (32-5)	3	0.500
TCU (22-12)	2	0.333
Rice (21-18)	2	0.222
Texas Tech (19-14)	0	0.000

Scott Centala worked the final four and two-thirds innings to run his record to 4-0. Centala struck out four while allowing no walks.

"Scott did his job," Johnson said.

See Sweep/Page 8



Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

A&M's Andy Duke slides into second base during A&M's 9-8 victory in game one Saturday as Baylor's Steve Klifas (10) fields the catcher's late throw.

Fisher, Higgins and Wolverines in right place at right time

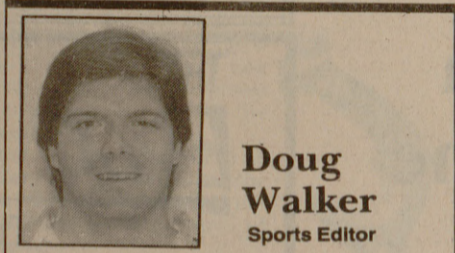
Rarely has such a screwed-up situation turned out to be so profitable.

Three weeks ago, the Michigan Wolverines lost their head coach just prior to their first-round NCAA Tournament game with Xavier.

Now, they stand on the brink of a national championship with interim Head Coach Steve Fisher leading them.

Timing is everything — Fisher will be the first to tell you that.

So will Illinois Head Coach Lou Henson. Fisher has a chance to accomplish what only 33 men in NCAA basketball history have done — win a national title — when the Wolverines meet Seton Hall tonight at the Kingdome in Seattle. Fisher, in only his sixth game as a head coach, can achieve basketball immortality by winning. He's already received more respect for his



Doug Walker
Sports Editor

coaching ability than Henson ever has. He turned what looked like a desperate situation into a glorious time in the history of Michigan basketball.

Fisher turned a team of talented, but uninspired individuals into a loose, confident group of winners. He may also have brought an invaluable gift — the

knack of being in the right place at the right time.

Fisher was in the right place at the right time when Arizona State got former Michigan Head Coach Bill Frieder to sign on as head coach.

Sean Higgins seems to have caught the habit.

As the clock wound down in Saturday's semi-final war with the Illini, the Wolverines found themselves in a predicament.

With the game tied at 81, everybody watching knew Glen Rice was the man who would take Michigan's last shot. He had scored 28 points and averaged 31 points per outing in the tournament.

They wanted a perimeter shot because, with the game on the line, Rice was their best bet and Illinois had gotten every

crucial rebound in their tournament games.

The Illini got to Seattle in part because of an offensive rebound by Kenny Battle off a missed free throw late in the win over Syracuse in the Midwest final.

However, Michigan guard Rumeal Robinson couldn't get Rice the ball, and Battle wouldn't let Rice get open. So Robinson tried to drive the lane.

No dice.

He tossed the ball outside to Terry Mills. Mills should've been down low looking for a rebound or an easy layup. Higgins was also out of position, on the baseline and by the backboard. It turns out he was in the right place.

Mills tossed up a brick from 20 feet away. Great pass. Higgins, climbing over the back of Illinois' Nick Anderson, got the ball, turned and nailed a six-footer with two

seconds to go.

After getting every important rebound in the tournament, the Illini were done in by a lapse in the strongest part of their game.

Henson's short, talented team had rolled through the Midwest Region by crashing the boards and working harder than their opponents. Now they had become victims of a problem which they had overcome all season.

Henson, finally earning long-overdue respect, returns home without a national title after 27 years and 535 wins.

Fisher's head coaching career, only five games old, can reach its pinnacle with a win tonight.

Timing is everything.



The Middle East: Peace or Powder Keg

April 12, 1989

His Excellency
Javier Pérez de Cuéllar
United Nations Secretary-General

The Honorable
Robert C. McFarlane
former National Security Advisor

Admiral
Stansfield Turner
former C.I.A. Director

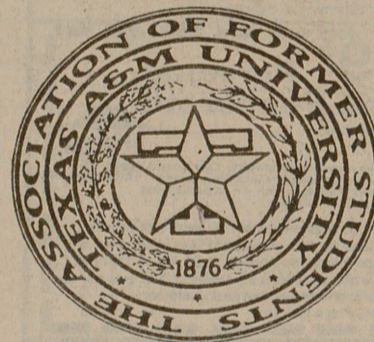
Ed Bradley
Co-Editor "60 Minutes"

8 p.m. Rudder Auditorium

Tickets on sale now at the MSC Box Office

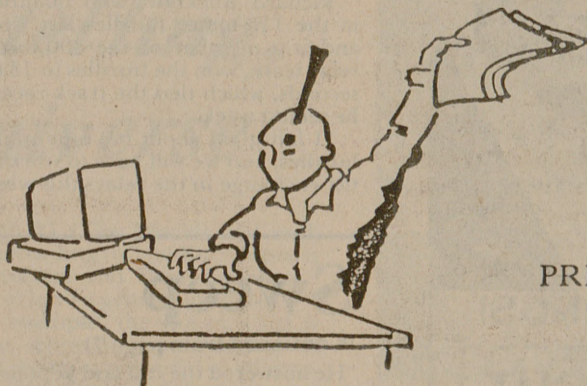
Tickets \$6-\$8-\$10 for all TAMU students, \$8-\$10-\$12 for all others

GATHRIGHT AWARDS AND BUCK WEIRUS SPIRIT AWARDS



ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRESENTATION
9:00 A.M. SUNDAY, APRIL 9 RUDDER AUDITORIUM

All applicants should attend!



NOTES-N-QUOTES
112 NAGLE STREET
846-2255

- LECTURE NOTES
- COPIES
- TYPING SERVICES
- LASER PRINTING
- PRINTING AND BINDING SERVICES
- SCANTRONS
- CLIFF NOTES
- LAMINATING
- TRANSPARENCIES

3 Cent Copies
Limit: 25
expires April 30, 1989
(with coupon)

Resume Packet \$8
Limit: 2
expires April 30, 1989
(with coupon)