The Battalion SPORTS

Tuesday, February 20, 1990

Sports Editor

Richard Tijerina

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Wide receiver/outfielder Patterson knows he's no Bo

By ALAN LEHMANN Of The Battalion Staff

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Cornelius Patterson knows he's no Bo Jackson.

Patterson, a speedy wide receiver. for the Texas A&M football team, came out for baseball this spring and won a spot on the Aggie roster. Although he has played sparingly

usually as a pinch runner so far this season, Patterson said he's often compared to Jackson, America's favorite two-sport athlete

"People call me 'Bo Jackson'," Pat-terson said. "But I'm not trying to follow in his shoes or anything."

Patterson has little in common with Jackson and doesn't see himself as another Bo.

That's evident if you've ever seen Patterson play baseball. Bo breaks bats as he walks off the field. Patterson breaks a smile.

Patterson said he's glad to be a part of the 1990 Aggie baseball team, even if his part is small. So far, he's played in four games and was hitless in his only plate appearance. Although Patterson has been regulated to the role of pinch runner, he said he's not bothered by it.

"I respect the guys in front of me," Patterson said. "They've been there a while, they're experienced and I'm just coming in. I'll just have to wait my turn.

"I'm just trying to help the team out. Anything I can do, I'll do."

Still, Patterson is reluctant to say he's satisfied with being a designated runner.

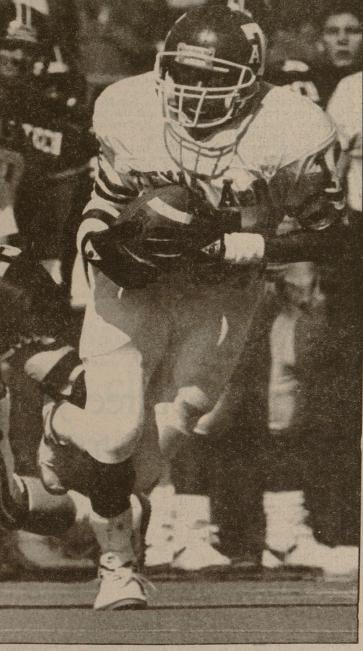
"Being a complete ballplayer is what everyone dreams of," he said. "But I've accepted my role, and I respect the guys in front of me because they have more experience than I do.

Patterson's football mentor, receivers coach Robert Ford, said that Patterson is a positive influence off the field.

"Cornelius is a very pleasant young man," Ford said. "He's a real good student, and sings in the church choir.

Patterson proved that nice guys don't finish last when he became a hero in his first collegiate baseball game. In the Aggies' Feb. 9 season openery against the Eniversity of Texas-Arlington, Patterson came to the game in the bottom of the 10th inning to pinch run.

He stole second base, and took third on a wild pitch that bounced



Battalion file photos

Junior Cornelius Patterson is living a two-sport lifestyle at A&M as a wide receiver (I) and outfielder (r) for the Aggies.

have pulled off.

Patterson's speed convinced UTA past the third baseman. to intentionally walk Dan Robinson "It was sort of like a dream," Pat-and Blake Pyle to set up a possible terson said. "I mean, my first colleonly a few feet away from the force play. Then Patterson scored giate game as a baseball player, and I catcher; a feat most runners couldn't the winning run when left fielder score the winning run."

Chad Broussard smashed a single

By ALAN LEHMANN Of The Battalion Staff The No. 8 Texas A&M baseball team will defend its 7-0 record Tues-day when they host Lamar in a 1 p.m. doubleheader at Olsen Field.

The Aggies shook their offensive woes Saturday as they thrashed Pan American 7-2 and 8-1.

No. 8 Aggies

against Lamar

defend 7-0 mark

They managed a season-high 12 hits in the nightcap, and got a grand slam in the first game from right fielder Dan Robinson. Junior pitcher Rich Robertson

won the Coppertone National Player of the Week award. Robertson, a transfer from San Jacinto Junior College, struck out 12 Pan American batters and allowed only one run in seven innings to improve his record to 2-0.

Robertson isn't the only hot Aggie pitcher.

The A&M staff has combined for a 0.90 earned run average. Robertson and senior Pat Sweet

share the team lead with 2-0 records. Jason Bullard, another San Jacinto transfer, leads the team with two saves

The Aggies moved up to No. 8 in the latest ESPN/Collegiate Baseball the latest ESPN/Collegiate baseball polls. It is the highest ranking A&M has had this season, after spending 11 weeks ranked No. 1 last year. Coach Mark Johnson said that he's happy with the pitching staff. "I can't say enough about our pitchers and the job Coach (Jim) Lawler has done with that group," Johnson said.

Johnson said.

'They are throwing the breaking ball for a strike and staying ahead of the hitters.'

Robinson, a junior San Jacinto transfer, has emerged as the Aggies' offensive leader.

He leads the team in hits (7), average (.333), runs (8), runs batted in (9), homeruns (2) and stolen bases (4)

The probable starters for Tuesday's games are Brent Gilbert and Sean Lawrence.

Gilbert has pitched in one game and has a 0.00 ERA in his 2.2 innings of work. Lawrence, a sopho-more from Oak Park, Illinois, hasn't pitched this season, but was 2-0 last season.

Lamar will counter with Shad Smith (1-0, 4.76 ERA) and Michael Stewart (1-0, 3.86).

The Cardinals are 3-3-1 for the season after losing to Sam Houston 2-1 in the opener of a doubleheader and tying 4-4 because of darkness in the nightcap.

After the doubleheader, the Aggies take to the road for six games Friday through Monday. They will play three games against

Davis considering possible A&M coaching offer

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTSTexas A&M Athletic Director
John David Crow is scouring the na-
tion in search of a head coach for his
basketball program.Thornton is among the possible re-
placements for Shelby Metcalf, who
has contacted
University of Idaho Athletic Direc-
tor Gary Hunter and asked permis-
sion to set up a formal postseason in-terview with Idaho basketball coach
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the nation.Wiew With Davis Sale
to set up a formal postseason in-terview with Idaho basketball coach
to set up a formal postseason in-terview wit

It may have felt like a dream, but Patterson hit .325 in the leadoff it wasn't Patterson's first big moment spot and played centerfield in high on a baseball field. He starred for his school. "I had a little pop in my bat," he high school baseball team in Moss Point, Ms., and lettered three years See Patterson/Page 8 in the sport.

basketball program.

both Louisiana Tech and Northeast Louisiana.

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