

# No. 16 Ags host Hardin Simmons

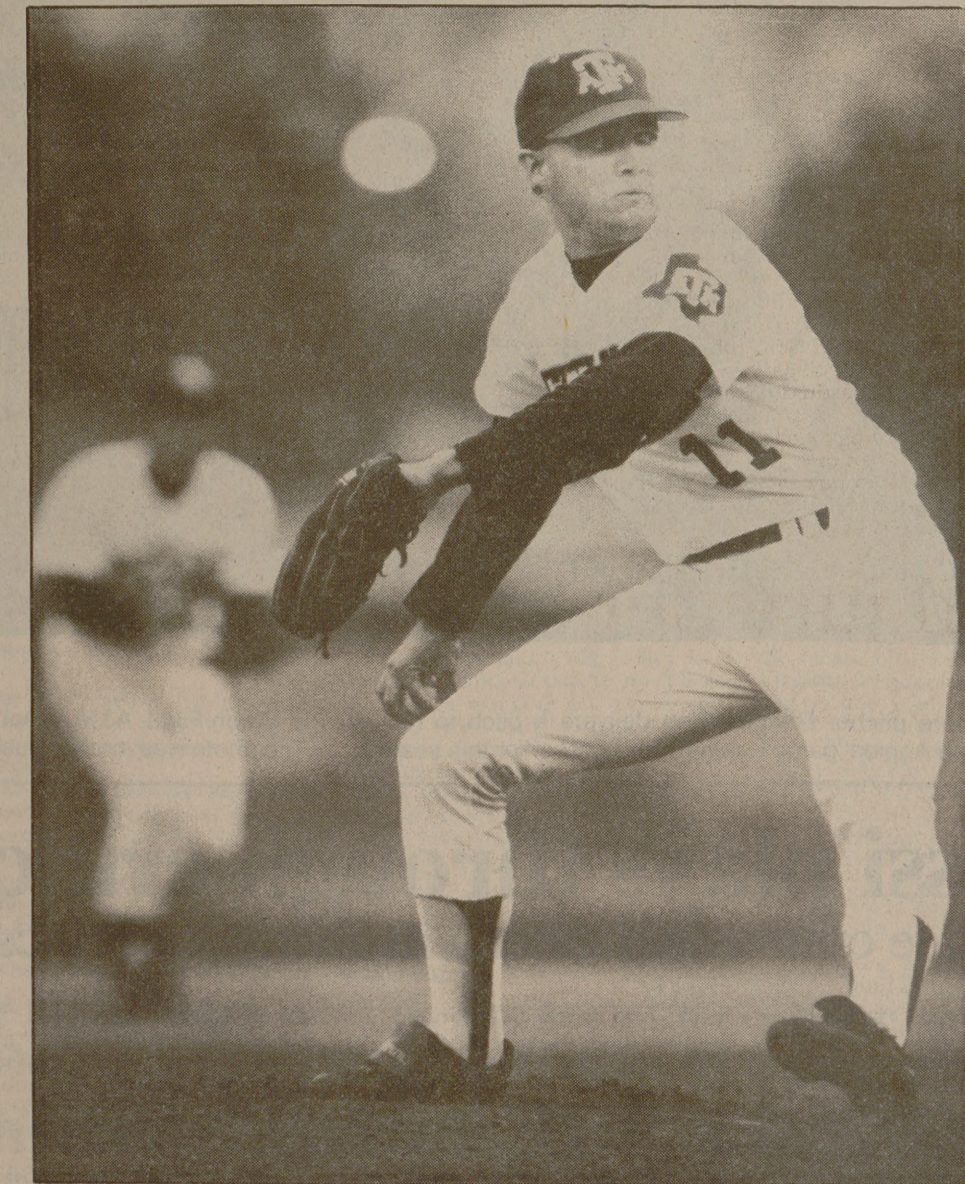


Photo by Scott D. Weaver

A&M pitcher Jason Bullard winds up for a pitch during his win over Southwest Texas State March 6. Bullard and fellow starter Brent Gilbert will start for the Aggies Tuesday night in a doubleheader against Hardin Simmons at Olsen Field. A&M is 28-7 on the season and 3-0 in Southwest Conference play.

## Bullard, Gilbert draw starting spots for A&M against Cowboys Tuesday

By ALAN LEHMANN  
Of The Battalion Staff

The No. 16 Texas A&M baseball team will put its ten-game winning streak on the line Tuesday when it hosts Hardin Simmons University.

The Aggies, now 28-7 on the season, will host the 12-23 Cowboys in a 5:30 p.m. doubleheader at Olsen Field.

The twinbill will mark the end of a 16-game homestand, A&M's longest of the season.

Over the weekend, the Aggies swept three games from Texas Tech to open Southwest Conference play.

A&M, now 3-0 in SWC games, completely dominated Tech, outscoring the Red Raiders 23-1.

The Aggies won 11-0, 9-0 and 3-1. Tech scored their only run on a two-out homer in the ninth inning of Saturday's finale.

The Aggies now have thrown seven shutouts, six of them in the last 14 games.

A&M aces Ronnie Allen and Rich Robertson each hurled two-hit shutouts at the Raiders.

Senior Pat Sweet shook a two-game losing streak Saturday as he went the distance in the finale.

The Aggie pitchers weren't the only ones who were hot this weekend. A&M bashed 27 hits, 10 in each of the first two games, and were led by Blake Pyle 4-for-8, Brian Thomas 5-for-12 and Travis Williams 4-for-10.

For the Aggies, who have struggled at the plate all season, the hitting couldn't

come at a better time.

Conference play is a whole new season, and the Aggies hit a cool .300 over the weekend.

A&M also played flawless defense. The Aggies didn't make a single error this weekend, and took advantage of nine Raider miscues.

Probable Aggie starters for Tuesday's doubleheader are Brent Gilbert (3-3, 6.16 ERA) and Jason Bullard (2-0, 2.80 ERA).

Gilbert picked up a win last Tuesday when A&M beat Southwestern. The victory broke his personal three-game losing streak dating back to a Feb. 25 loss to Northeast Louisiana.

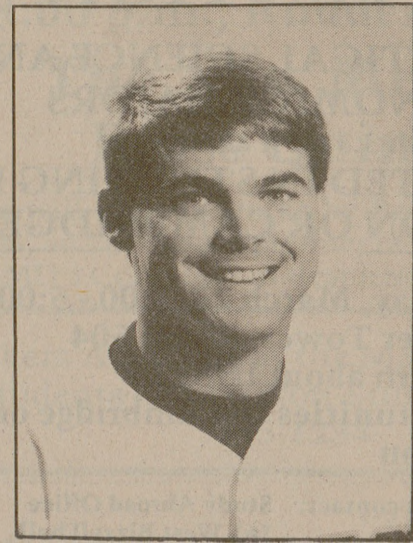
Bullard has had control problems, walking 28 batters in 26 innings. However, he's struck out 33 and allowed only 15 hits.

Tuesday will be family night at Olsen Field. The entire family can attend the game for only \$4 and each person will receive one free soft drink.

The Aggies travel to Waco next weekend to face the Baylor Bears in their next Southwest Conference action.

A&M shares the conference lead with a 3-0 record after its three-game sweep over Texas Tech. Over last weekend, Texas swept a three-game series against Baylor in Austin. Arkansas, last year's co-SWC champions along with the Aggies, dropped one game to Houston.

That loss may prove costly later in the season. A&M must travel for what is considered its two toughest series of 1990—Texas in Austin and Arkansas in Fayetteville, Ark.



Brent Gilbert



**Skeeter Brown**  
Scab Sports Writer

## Strike Day One: Skeeter's views on Ag quarterbacks

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Assistant Sports Editor Clay Rasmussen is in his first day of a self-imposed strike to protest professional athletes' burgeoning salaries. Refusing to write his Tuesday column, The Battalion was forced to hire Skeeter Brown, a scab sports writer, in his place. Happy reading.

Ahem. Thank you.

I have been a Texas A&M football fan for every one of my 28 years, except for that one season after they fired former coach Emory Bellard. That really tanned my hide. In those 27 years, I have seen great quarterbacks come and go.

I've lived through them all: the Walkers, the Moseleys, the Kubiaks, the Stumps and the Murrays. Not to mention the two fine young fellers sharing time in the Aggie backfield of this spring—Lance Pavlas and Bucky Richardson.

Pavlas had a helluva season in 1989, leading a young Aggie team to the John Hancock Bowl. With a little luck, A&M could have finished the year with a record much better than 8-4.

But now Richardson is back after redshirting last season. And he supposedly is just about as good as new. Seeing him in spring practice has been hard for me, however. He's definitely showing the rust from a season out of the gridiron.

You see, Richardson is my favorite quarterback. I guess it's the name. Bucky. I had an uncle named Bucky. Also a pet squirrel. Seeing Bucky (Richardson, that is, not my squirrel) scramble away from would-be tacklers made something See Skeeter/Page 9

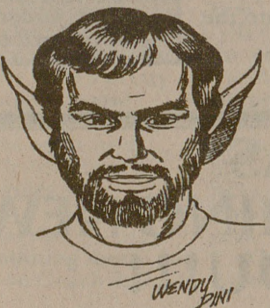
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