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Representatives will be available to provide information about

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# Portugal leads Astros past lowly Braves, 6-2

HOUSTON (AP) — Even Mark Portugal doesn't know why he's Super-herman in the second half of the season.

Portugal is 15-2 after the All-Star break in the last two seasons for Houston following his 6-2 victory Sunday over the Atlanta Braves.

"I can't explain it," he said. "I guess I get better run support, and I start thinking I don't want a sub-.500 record or something."

Portugal (11-10) won for the seventh time in eight decisions as the Astros completed a nine-game sweep of the Braves at home this year. He struck out five and allowed three hits in seven innings. Portugal left with the bases loaded and no outs in the eighth, and two runs eventually scored.

"I don't know what it is," Astros manager Art Howe said. "But the second half of the season, he's one of the best pitchers in the league. We just have to come back and figure a way for him to put the first half together next year."

Portugal started the season 1-7. He's heard all the jokes. Teammates should place a calendar marked "July" in his locker at the start of the year. They should stage a mock All-Star game in April just to fool him.

"I don't think I pitched that badly in the first half," he said. "I just didn't get the job done at key times and when you are struggling, people look for reasons and start calling you a second-half pitcher."

Houston scored four times in the second after Glenn Davis, Rafael Ramirez and Ken Caminiti singled to load the bases off Tom Glavine (10-12). Mark Davidson had an RBI single, Portugal drove in a run with a grounder and Casey Candaele hit a two-run single.

Atlanta scored in the eighth as Lonnie Smith singled and Jeff Treadway and Ron Gant walked. Juan Agosto walked Dave Justice to force home one run and another scored when reliever Jim Clancy got Francisco Cabrera to ground into a double play. Clancy finished for his first save.

Ramirez and Caminiti hit run-scoring singles in the Astros' eighth.

# Oakland clubs Ryan on way to 20-8 month

ARLINGTON (AP) — No let-up for the Oakland Athletics — they finished off the best September in club history on Sunday by beating Nolan Ryan and the Texas Rangers.

Pinch hitters Terry Steinbach, Willie Randolph and Jose Canseco each drove in runs in the eighth inning as the Athletics won 4-3.

The defending World Series champions went 20-8 in September. Their previous record had been 19 wins in 1988.

"In the clutch in August and September we played great," Oakland manager Tony La Russa said. "I hope it's a good omen for October."

The Athletics were the first team in baseball to clinch their division this season, winning their third straight American League West title. Their 102-57 record is the best in the majors.

Ryan (13-9) went 7 1-3 innings and gave up three hits. He struck out 11, raising his major league-leading total to 232, and walked four. Ryan has struck out at least 10 eight times this season and 207 times in his career.

"Nolan was competing his tail off from the first pitch out there today. He wasn't going to give us anything. You never enjoy seeing him in the game," La Russa said.

Reliever Steve Chitren picked up his first major-league victory. He gave up Kevin Reimer's two-run double in the ninth and Joe Klink took over for his first major league save. Klink retired three straight batters, including Julio Franco and Rafael Palmeiro.

"Klink didn't back off," La Russa said. "That's about as tough a save as you can get. You don't dodge that bullet of Franco and Palmeiro. He did it and that's one he'll remember."

Klink said, "I knew I'd have to go out in the 10th if I didn't do the job and I didn't want to do that."

With the score tied at 1, Ryan was lifted after a single and a sacrifice in the eighth. Texas manager Bobby Valentine went to his bullpen four times to get the A's out in the eighth. Steinbach hit a run-scoring double and Randolph and Canseco had RBI singles.

"I didn't have as good stuff as I had early in the game," Ryan said. "I told (manager) Bobby (Valentine) to get in a left-hander. I've had some close, frustrating games lately. You just go out and do your job and do the best you can."

Reggie Harris, making his first major league start, struck out seven, walked six and allowed only two hits before he left for Chitren in the seventh. Harris walked the first three batters in the second inning but allowed only a run on Steve Buechele's sacrifice fly.

Ryan returned the favor in the third inning by walking Willie McGee with the bases loaded after two singles and a hit by pitch, tying it at 1.

The crowd of 35,912 gave the Rangers a club-record of 2,057,887 fans. The A's drew 2,595,969 fans on the road, an all-time major league record; the previous high was 2,561,195 by the New York Yankees in 1988.

# Lady Ags

Continued from page 7

before the Lady Aggies finally brought home the win and the tournament title.

Edmiston's kills in the match supplied the Lady Aggies with points that helped solidify her as the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

She credited the MVP honor as being a team effort. She feels the wins will give the team momentum.

"As far as winning the tournament that feels great, Edmiston said. "We needed these three wins in a row to pick ourselves back up after the losing streak."

Cummings and Hierholzer joined Edmiston on the all-tournament team.

Givens said the team played more aggressively and believes the tough competition helped the Lady Aggies.

"I feel like we're making progress, and starting to play like we know we're capable of."

# Upset

Continued from page 7

Frazier, setting up the Aggies on their own 20-yard line.

Pavlas handed off to running backs Randy Simmons and Doug Carter who bolted for 14 and 13 yards respectively.

Pavlas followed with a pass to Simmons for 15 yards with :43 left. But a pass intended for Gary Oliver was picked off at the 4-yard line by LSU's Anthony Marshall to end the half. The Aggies went three downs on their first drive of the half and was forced to punt. Tiger Mike Garrett charged in and blocked Sean Wilson's punt. LSU took over on the A&M 31.

The block set up the Tigers' first score of the game when kicker Pedro Suarez hit a 26-yard attempt with 11:04 remaining in the third quarter.

A&M backup quarterback Bucky Richardson entered the game with 4:04 left in the quarter, but couldn't get the ball moving and the Aggies were forced to punt again.

On the first play of the fourth quarter, A&M's Trent Lewis recovered an LSU fumble, setting up a 37-yard field goal attempt. A bad snap caused holder Brian Payne to scramble and pass incomplete to Ransom.

After a gain of three yards and a loss of two, the Tigers faced third-and-9 on their own 21. Quarterback Chad Loup threw a short pass up the middle to Todd Kinchen, who scrambled down the sideline and up across the middle for a 79-yard touchdown to put LSU up 10-0.

Kinchen topped that off with a 60-yard punt return to set up another Tiger touchdown, which came when Williams ran it in from one yard out to put the Tiger out of reach, 17-0.

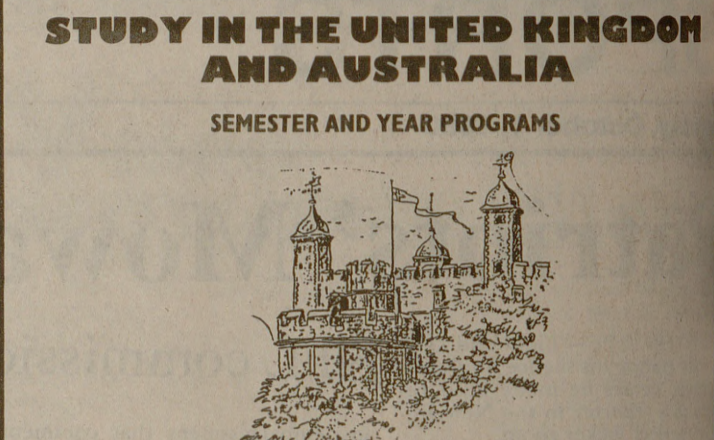
A&M's only score came on their third possession of the last quarter. Pavlas completed to Carter for a 13-yard touchdown run with 5:24 left. The Aggies went for the two-point conversion and Pavlas threw to Garrett, putting A&M on the board, 17-8.

On their final series, Pavlas was intercepted for the third time on a pass intended for Garrett at the LSU 41.

Defensively, A&M's John Miller and William Thomas each wrapped up Loup for a sack, and inside linebacker Anthony Williams led the team with 12 tackles. Thomas and Quentin Coryatt followed with 10 tackles each.

**STUDY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND AUSTRALIA**

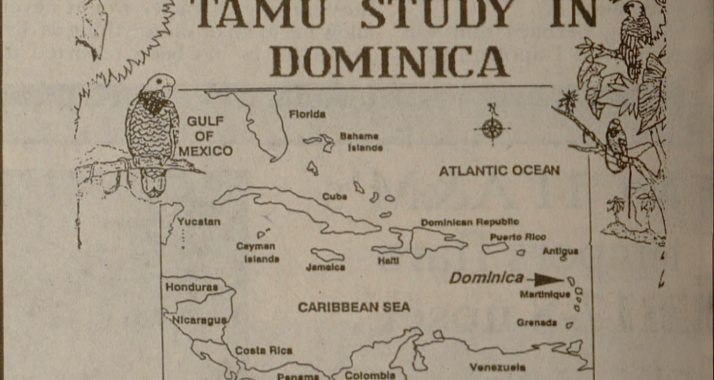
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LBAR 334: Studies in Italian Civilization and Culture II: Social, Economic and Political Aspects of Italian Culture  
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Prof. Paolo Barucchieri • Santa Chiara, Italy

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Prof. Peter Hugill • 803-C O&M Building • 845-7106

GEOG 450: Field Geography  
Prof. Rick Giardino • 814-C O&M Building • 845-7188

(all courses pending approval)

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