

Sports

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The Battalion

Page 7



ANTHONY ANDRO
Sportswriter

NFL's decision on instant replay the correct call

Rest in peace instant replay, and good riddance.

Last Wednesday, at the National Football League Owner's Meeting, the owners of the 28 teams voted down the use of instant replay in NFL games, and it's about time.

For the last six seasons, whether or not someone was out of bounds or had possession of the ball, or whether or not the ground caused the fumble, has been left up to one man and a television screen.

Instead of letting the officials on the field decide what was up, the play always went to the replay booth.

But that was then and this is now. No one in their right minds will miss the immortal phrase, "After further review..." Professional football is great, but lately the games have been way too long.

The NFL head honchos tried to speed up games the last few seasons by not stopping the clock unless it was in the last two minutes of the quarter and by also limiting the amount of time a replay official has to review a play.

Those changes helped, but this will be the key to speeding up what had become three-hour contests.

Maybe now league officials will pay more attention to the game instead of just watching and waiting for a play to be sent to the replay booth. The officials seem to be competent enough to know what happened on a play without having Big Brother watching over them.

It seemed that the use of replay would be a good idea, but it was not. See Andro/Page 8



KARL STOLLEIS/The Battalion

Eric Gonzalez stumbles in a rundown between first and second base while trying to avoid the tag of SHSU's Bobby Johnson in the first inning of A&M's 12-0 win.

A&M runs circles around Bearkats

Harris hits for the cycle in 12-0 win

By Anthony Andro
The Battalion

After Robert Harris's performance for the Texas A&M baseball team last night, one might wonder if injured Aggie Mike Hickey has ever heard of Wally Pipp.

Pipp played for the New York Yankees in the late 1920s. He was injured and replaced by a player named Lou Gehrig. Pipp never played again, and Gehrig wound up in the Hall of Fame.

Harris, who is substituting for Hickey at second base, hit for the cycle Tuesday and paced the Aggies to a 12-0 win over Sam Houston State at Olsen Field.

Harris singled in the first inning, tripled in the third inning, doubled in the fourth inning and hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning. It was the first time, to his memory, that he had accomplished the feat.

"I don't think I've ever hit for the cycle," Harris said. "If I did, it was probably in T-ball or something. It was real exciting."

He went 4-for-5 in the game, scored two runs and had five RBIs. It was his

best performance since he took over for Hickey, who broke his hand in a tournament in Minnesota more than three weeks ago.

Once he knew he had a chance at the cycle, Harris tried to hit a homer but popped up.

"I had one thing left to do to hit for the cycle, and that was a home run and I tried to do that and popped up," he said. "I couldn't believe I did that the last time. It was kind of amazing."

"The last time at bat, I wasn't trying to hit a home run."

A&M coach Mark Johnson said Harris' rare performance is something he should enjoy.

"It's a special time and not too many people get that," Johnson said. "It only happens once or twice in your lifetime in baseball. It's a special day."

"Robert Harris worked hard, and everything fell right today."

The Aggies were never really challenged in the game. Catcher John Keller began the scoring in the second inning

See Aggie/Page 8

Barone has no plans to leave A&M

Coach firm in commitment to rebuild fledgling basketball program

By Scott Wudel
The Battalion

Texas A&M basketball coach Tony Barone has never been one for taking the easy way out of a difficult situation. All the NCAA sanctions and the other hardships the Aggies have faced this year could not convince the first-year coach to turn tail and run from Aggieland.

Tuesday, Barone reaffirmed his commitment to the A&M basketball program, ending further speculation that he was listening to offers from other colleges that might give the coach a breath of fresh air

after his 6-22 inaugural season at A&M.

Since the end of the regular season, Barone's name, along with a handful of others, has been circulated among a number of athletic directors who are looking for the right man to fill their coaching vacancies.

Barone listened to what Wisconsin and Wichita State had to say, but decided to stay at A&M to rebuild what he believed was the worst major college basketball program in the country when he arrived.

"It wouldn't have been an easy way out," Barone said. "If you look at what happened this year, and all the circum-

stances that surrounded what we went through, I'm not sure there wouldn't have been some people who said, 'Maybe you should go.'

After extended discussions with both schools, Barone took his name off their lists and continued forward in his plans to one day have the Aggies in the Top 25.

"I knew after I talked with those people, that those two jobs were jobs I wasn't interested in," he said. "I know what it takes to build a top program. I know



See Barone/Page 8

Tony Barone said he discussed offers from other schools but will remain at A&M.



Totally twisted: "Wayne's World" and "Ren & Stimpy" T-shirts

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