

SPORTS

Monday, April 12, 1993

The Battalion

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The quest for shoes can give some the blues

Squeak, squeak, squeak.

This is not supposed to happen to the \$124.99, Charles Barkley, black, Dura-buck, red eyelet, white insignia Nike hi-tops with the hidden air bladders. I could have chosen any shoe, from the \$9 Pro Wings to the \$3.4 trillion Shaquille O'Neals. But instead, the clerk forced me into buying the defective pair that made me sound like I was hiding baby mice in the air bladders. So I had no choice but to return and buy another pair at my friendly shoe store. But this time, I was out for revenge. (Store name withheld because I applied there for a job.)



DAVID WINDER
Sports Writer

Clerk: "How can I help you, sir?"
Me: "Well, I would like to try on a pair of these Nikes, both these Reeboks, a pair of these Adidas, and all three Avias. I wear either a size 11-1/2 or a size 12, so you better bring out both."

(The clerk then dashed back to the storeroom and returned within the hour.)

Clerk: "Well, sir, in the Nikes I found only a 12, I have both sizes in the Reeboks, in one pair of the Adidas I have 12 but in the other one I only have a 13. But the Adidas usually run smaller than the other shoes. In the Avias in the mid-top I have a 12, but in the low tops I have both sizes."

Me: "Well just a second. How come you didn't tell me that Michael Jordan came out with his own shoe?"

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Aggies stake claim to SWC dominance



KYLE BURNETT/The Battalion

A&M's Brian Thomas gets a faceful of infield dirt as he slides into third in front of a Tech infielder Friday night. The tag on Thomas was not in time, as the senior outfielder was able to leg out a triple in the Aggies' first win over the Red Raiders.

Sweep of Tech helps give A&M breathing room

By K. LEE DAVIS

Special to the Battalion

The Texas Tech Red Raiders came to College Station on Good Friday with the intent of contending for a conference baseball championship.

On Saturday they staggered out of Olsen Field holding slim hopes for making the conference tournament after being out hit, out pitched and out played during a three game sweep at the hands of Texas A&M.

Aggie coach Mark Johnson said he felt fortunate to come away with three wins over the Red Raiders.

"To get a sweep against Tech, well, I wouldn't have bet very much of the house on that," Johnson said.

A&M, ranked second nationally in all three major polls, seized sole possession of first place in the conference with the sweep and stands to ascend to first place in the nation after the top-ranked University of Texas squad dropped two of three games to the Baylor Bears over the weekend.

The Aggies sandwiched two fine pitching performances around an offensive explosion to take the series from the Red Raiders.

Tech coach Larry Hays said that his team was clearly outplayed by the Ag-

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Johnson finally gains 400th career victory after previous near-misses

By WILLIAM HARRISON

The Battalion

Texas A&M baseball coach Mark Johnson had an especially Good Friday, notching his 400th career victory in front of a crowd of 5,003 at Olsen Field in the opener of A&M's three-game series against conference rival Texas Tech.

Johnson said he was pleased with his

team's play in the 6-1 win over Tech, but refused to attach much significance to the benchmark victory on his home field.

"It's not as major of a deal as the press and people make it out to be. I don't think there's any coach that stands and says 'Boy, look what I've achieved,'" Johnson said.

"(The 400 wins) is a reflection on a lot of good players that have come and that

Texas A&M has been able to draw in here."

Johnson got the win with another strong outing by A&M pitcher Jeff Granger, who struck out 11 and was supported by a four-run outburst in the eighth inning to outpace the Red Raiders.

"Jeff's had two back-to-back outings where he's in the strike zone and in command of his pitches, and that gives every-

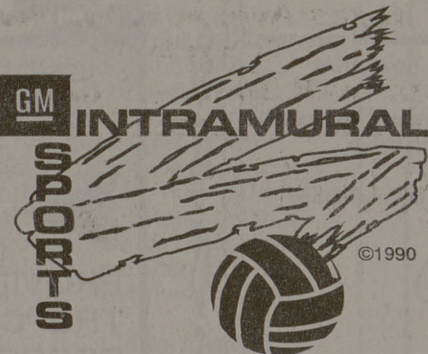
body else some confidence," Johnson said.

"If he's going to go out there and do well, then the rest of the team is probably going to go out and do well, also."

Johnson said that A&M's two runs in the first inning helped set the tone for the game and gave Granger some cushion to challenge the hitters.

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