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Career Center's Upcoming Events
 Week of April 12-16
 Monday April 12: Resume Writing Seminar 3:00 p.m. 302 Rudder
 Tuesday April 13: Career Research Seminar 3:00 p.m. 110 Student Services Bldg
 Wednesday April 14: Placement Orientation 10:00 a.m. 110 Student Services Bldg
 Thursday April 15: Compensation & Salary Analysis Seminar 2:00 p.m. 501 Rudder
 Interviewing Techniques 4:00 p.m. 110 Student Services Bldg
 Friday April 16: Career Options Seminar 11:00 a.m. 302 Rudder

Wunsch

Continued from Page 7

to be the best I've ever coached," he said.

Wunsch is the man that adds depth to the already potent arms of Granger and Trey Moore and the rest of the staff.

"We have above average college pitching in the one through seven slots of our staff," Johnson said.

He also added that sophomore Brian Parker may have stepped up to fill the role as a closer in what will become an important role throughout the Conference and Regional tournaments.

In a comparison with stable-mate Granger, Wunsch has sparked on the mound with an impressive 12.9 strikeouts per nine innings pitched compared to Granger's 10.7. Wunsch has also stymied opposing batters to a minuscule .201 batting average, only slightly higher than Granger's .187.

Wunsch says he feels no pressure in being the number two man in the rotation.

"There's really nothing tough about it. In fact, Jeff and I have a competition between us for strikeouts," Wunsch said.

Johnson agreed that Wunsch should not feel added pressure pitching behind Granger.

"I don't think there is any pressure on him. I try not to get to wrapped up in numbers so there really is no number one or number two pitcher, per say," Johnson said.

"To earn respect you've got to earn it and right now I'm working on getting it," said Wunsch on the subject of being overshadowed by Granger. "Jeff has proven himself time and time again and I'm trying to prove myself now."

Kelly Wunsch has proven something this season. He has shown doubters that he is no longer the lifetime 8-9, 4.94 ERA pitcher that he was the last two years.

"I think my confidence level is much higher this year," Wunsch said of his season. "I've worked harder and developed my breaking ball more."

Recent back stiffness has limited Wunsch to starts in the Texas Christian and Houston series, but he pitched four solid

innings against the University of Texas-Arlington allowing no runs on two hits while fanning five.

His next start was scheduled for the rubber game of a three game series with Lubbock Christian, but it was rained out.

"I was kind of angry, I mean I wanted to get back into the rotation and pitch seven or eight innings," Wunsch said. "Besides, it was Lubbock Christian and Jeff had just struck out 21 the night before."

Wunsch is coming off his best and most important outing this year as he notched his fifth victory in a 4-3 win over Texas Tech this past Saturday.

He whiffed a career high 14 batters, the most important two came with the bases loaded in the seventh inning with the Aggies up by just one run.

Wunsch was dominating, striking out eight of the first nine hitters he faced, while allowing just five hits in seven full innings of work.

Wunsch realizes that despite his successes, he does need to improve in some areas.

"(I need to) work on keeping my pitch count down so I can stay in the game longer. I'd also like to work on more consistent control," he said.

Johnson added that Wunsch has been improving steadily during the season.

"He's a better pitcher than he was one month ago and we look to see more of that as the season finishes up," Johnson said.

The Major Leagues might steal another ace as it appears that Jeff Granger will be joined by Wunsch in departing the confines of Olsen Field after this year.

Johnson believes that both have the talent to make it professionally.

"They have a great chance to make some money and a lot of people have been watching them," he said.

Wunsch said that even a disappointing post-season would probably not effect his decision to go professional, but he warned that he would not rule out returning to A&M. "I will cross that bridge when I come to it," Wunsch said.

The Aggies will try to remain atop the polls as they play host to Sam Houston, Tuesday and Texas Southern on Wednesday. Both games will begin at 7 p.m. at Olsen Field.

Polls have the Aggies on top

Continued From Page 7

Johnson said that the rankings did not figure into the regional selection process, but this late in the season, the rankings carried more significance.

"There's more credibility in the April rankings, (and) more of a match with the coaches' thoughts," Johnson said.

"If you're ranked up there in the top where they can seed you number one or possibly a number two, you've got a pretty good chance."

"The thing is, the ranking done by the NCAA Committee has nothing to do with what Baseball America, Collegiate Baseball or the coaches have to say," Johnson added.

Johnson said that the rankings should not affect his team's play and attitude on the field.

A&M's other co-captain, Brian Thomas, said the weekend's sweep over Tech showed the capabilities and potential of the team against a good opponent.

"I think people are looking at us and seeing that we're improving as the season's going on."

"(Tech) was on a hot streak and so were we. There were just three great baseball games we won that no one really blew anyone out."

This is the first time A&M has been ranked number one since May 22, 1989, when A&M's 11-

week stretch at number one was

snapped after the Aggies lost to LSU in the regional playoffs that year.

Johnson compared the 1989 team and this year's team, saying that pitching is the main strength of this year's squad.

"The '89 team was very offensively oriented; a very strong defensive team position-wise. We're hitting over .300 and fielding over .960, so we've got to say we've got strength in those areas, also," Johnson said.

"There's not a lot of offensive output compared to the '89 team, but I'd always rather have good pitching. Good pitching will always beat good hitting."

A&M finished second in conference last year and second in the regionals in Gainesville, Florida, missing qualification to the College World Series. A&M has not been to a College World Series since 1964.

Harlan said that he and A&M's other co-captain Thomas felt the Aggies should have made it to the College World Series last year, and that there were enough returning players to keep the team hungry.

"I think it's going to be good for us that there's a bunch of guys off that regional team last year that know what it's like to lose and feel that hurt of having to come home being so close."

Thomas had a different angle. "I kind of just blow last season off," he said.

"We're just out having fun this year, and it's going to be a good year."



Johnson

Plumer

Continued from Page 7

McElroy was almost thrust into playing a season early. Due to the Warren Gilbert affair that cost Hill his eligibility for the 1993 Cotton Bowl, Thomas was the only tailback who was an upperclassman on the team.

Defensive back Wilbert Biggens was moved to tailback to help ease the loss but A&M coaches asked a big favor of McElroy. A favor that could cost him a whole year of playing time, even if McElroy only stepped on the field for one down against Notre Dame.

McElroy was to be used as an emergency backup, if injury befelled Thomas. In a team sport, he made a team decision.

"After discussing it with my family, we decided that it would be the best thing, not only for me but the team," the Beaumont Central product said. "It actually depended on the situation if I played. They (the A&M coaches) would not have just thrown me in the game."

"If Rodney got hurt and the game was on the line then I would have played. Biggens was back there so I didn't think it would come down to me playing. For example, if we had been way ahead or way behind and Rodney got hurt then there was no way I would play."

"It had to be a must situation."

Playing behind Thomas and Hill must have rubbed off on McElroy. During spring practice, he constantly made slashing, darting runs that some-

times left A&M defenders grabbing for air.

McElroy said those type of runs are his style.

"I am definitely more of a slasher and not a bull runner," he said. "Watching Greg and Rodney has helped me out because I see the little things that they do and the small adjustments they make."

"Just being around those guys is great because they put on a clinic in practice which has helped me a lot."

While McElroy is being taught the nuances of the college game right now, he wants to someday be the tutor. He strives to be the "go-to" guy when the game is on the line, but right now his path is blocked.

No problem.

"I don't mind waiting, because I was raised to have patience," he said. "I do want to be the type of person that is dependable and consistent and that can make a big contribution to the team."

"To do that this season, I need to stay healthy and be ready when called upon. Another thing I need to do is keep improving which I think I have done during spring practice."

Right now, McElroy said, the most important thing is for A&M to keep posting wins.

"A&M has a winning tradition and that was one of the reasons that I decided to come here," he said. "I wanted to be part of that; I wanted to go to a winning place where I thought I could contribute."

"Playing is important, but winning is at the top of the list."

A team statement from a team player.

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