

SPORTS

Thursday, April 15, 1993

The Battalion

Page 7

Aggies pounce on Tigers, 12-2

A&M erupts for 11 hits as Jansky wins first game

By MICHAEL PLUMER

The Battalion

As the temperatures kept dropping Wednesday night at Olsen Field due to a stiff, swirling northerly wind, the Texas A&M baseball team kept ringing up the runs.

The number one ranked Aggies, who scored in every inning but the second, beat Texas Southern 12-2. With the win, A&M moved its overall record to 38-5 while Texas Southern dropped to 5-39.

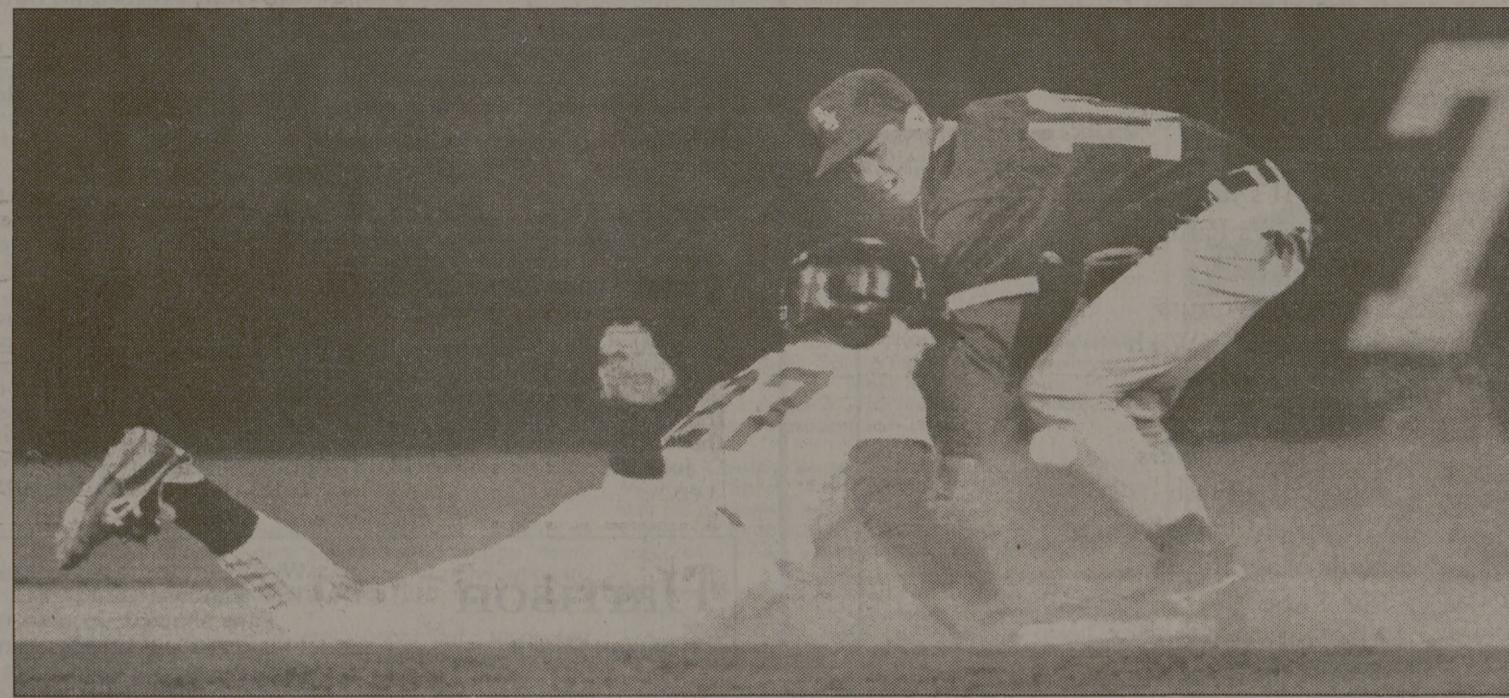
The game, scheduled for nine innings, was shortened to seven because of the unseasonably cool temperatures. A&M coach Mark Johnson said he was pleased with the win, especially after last night's tough doubleheader split against Sam Houston.

"It took us awhile to get it going tonight but we finally got it going in the sixth," Johnson said. "We couldn't really cut loose at the plate and when we did everything started going right."

"I didn't plan on shortening the game but their coach (Candy Robinson) agreed that it was a good thing to do."

A&M's bats finally heated up in the sixth inning, as the Aggies put the Tigers in their cage. Shortstop Robert Harris started the inning off with a double, which was followed by centerfielder Brian Thomas drawing a free pass from Texas Southern pitcher Arthur Jenkins.

Catcher Rob Trimble was also granted an uncontested trip to first base, loading the bases for leftfielder Scott Smith. Smith, who scored three runs, took advantage of the opportunity by lacing a single up the middle, scoring Harris and Thomas.



KEVIN IVY/The Battalion

Aggie left fielder Scott Smith dives back into first base as Texas Southern Shortstop Alex Uristi applies the tag during A&M's 12-2 rout of the Tigers. The ball bounced away from Uristi and

Smith was safe on the play. A&M will face Baylor for a single game in Waco Friday night before returning to Olsen Field for a double header against the Bears on Saturday night.

"I was trying to hit the ball hard and get something going," Smith said. "After the Sam Houston games, I was emotionally drained. Those were the first times I didn't have fun when we played so this game was a welcome." But the excitement in the sixth was just starting for the Aggies. Third baseman Robert Lewis, who had three RBI's, collected his second hit of the night, a double, which scored Trimble and Smith.

"It was real cold but it felt good to hit the ball and drive in some runs," Lewis said. "It was not cold at the plate and that was the important thing."

A&M wasn't done scoring runs. After

designated hitter John Curl popped up to Tiger third baseman Jorge A. Roque, second baseman Eric Gonzalez doubled, scoring Lewis with A&M's fifth run of the inning.

Rightfielder Stephen Claybrook struck out, but the rally had not been doused. Pinch hitter Brian Bittiker singled, scoring Gonzalez.

"As a team, we are used to having warmer weather so this was a little different," Johnson said. "We played solid baseball tonight and started really driving the ball when we needed to."

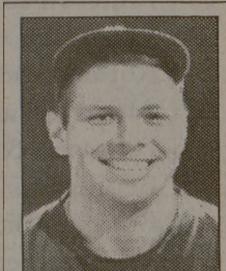
A&M built momentum for the rest of the game in the third inning. Harris

grounded out to Tiger shortstop Alex Uristi and Thomas followed by flying out to deep centerfield. The Aggies, though, had a two out rally planned.

Trimble singled, and moved along to second on Smith's single. Trimble advanced to third on Jenkins' wild pitch, and scored when Jenkins attempted a pickoff throw to first base that went awry.

See Aggies/Page 8

Raggies' antics can be funny-up to a point



WILLIAM HARRISON
Sports Writer

I've covered my share of Texas A&M games this season, and I have enjoyed seeing the same group of fans come out every game to support the team and rag the Aggies' opponents.

The "Raggies" as they're called sit in the front row of the student section, and game after game provide some of the most unique sideline antics to be seen anywhere.

They are Olsen Field's regulars, and they scream their own set of A&M 'yells' to needle and get under an opposing player's skin, which is fun to watch and participate in.

Until it gets personal.

Earlier in the year, an A&M student wrote into The Battalion complaining of a fan's taunting a Hispanic American player to go back across the United States/Mexico border.

As recently as Tuesday's double-header with Sam Houston, another incident almost ended up in a brawl between players and fans.

Bearkat players exchanged taunts and gestures with the A&M crowd after beating the Aggies in the first game, and then each group dared the other to face off after the Aggies beat the Bearcats on Brian Thomas' two-run homer, erasing a Sam Houston one-run edge in the seventh and final inning.

See Harrison/Page 8

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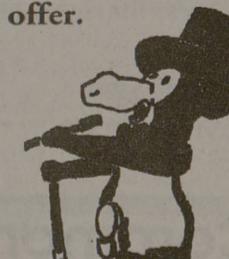
7:30 P.M.

Rudder Auditorium

Parent's Weekend is almost here! One of the traditional activities is the Variety Show. Don't miss out on this wonderful display of the talent that the students at Texas A&M have to offer.

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