

SPORTS

Wednesday, February 16, 1994

THE BATTALION

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Aggie softball sweeps Louisiana Tech

By Stewart Doreen

THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M ladies softball team used come-from-behind victories in route to a doubleheader sweep of Louisiana Tech on Tuesday.

In the first game, the Lady Aggies used a two-run double by Beth Gerken to overcome a one run deficit in the bottom of the sixth inning. The two-out double gave the Lady Aggies a 5-4 lead which they preserved despite a seventh inning scare from the Lady Techsters.

With two on and two out in the top of the seventh, relief pitcher Christy Bunting got Tech's Tammy Johnson to ground out to third to end the game. Kim Gonzalez received the win raising her record to 2-1.

In the finale, the Aggies fell behind 4-1 early in the game and remained behind going into the bottom of the seventh.

In the seventh with the Aggies

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A&M center fielder/catcher Beth Gerken (3) slides into Louisiana Tech's Wendy Wilson at home plate. Gerken was called out, ending the Aggies' rally in the sixth inning. A&M swept the double header, 5-4 and 5-4.

Kyle Burnett / THE BATTALION

Allen leads No. 5 A&M by Southeastern Louisiana

By Jose de Jesus Ortiz

THE BATTALION

Freshman outfielder Chad Allen blasted a home run, triple and three RBI's as No. 5 Texas A&M remained undefeated (4-0) by downing Southeastern Louisiana 10-2.

With shortstop Robert Harris on base, Allen, who batted third in the lineup, set the pace in the first inning when he cracked a two-run blast for his first career home run over the left field wall, which he said he was glad someone retrieved it for him.

"I got all of it," Allen said.

"It was a straight change-up, so I waited on it and hit it pretty well. Luckily, I got all of it."

"I'm going to send the ball home and keep it in my room forever."

Head coach Mark Johnson said Allen get the chance to translate his hitting prowess to the pitching mound. Johnson said Allen, without any unexpected circumstances, will pitch the ninth.

Allen's play helped junior transfer Justin Atchley collect his first career victory. Atchley pitched five innings, allowing

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Burket 'silently' leads Lady Aggies to record season start

By Kristine Ramirez

THE BATTALION

Beth Burket, who has silently

contributed to the Lady Aggies best start in A&M history, will help the Texas A & M women's basketball team try to defeat the University of Houston Lady Cougars tonight.

Burket, a 6-foot-1 senior forward, has quietly helped the team to a 8-1 Southwest Conference record and 16-4 overall. She is the only senior starter on the team and is averaging 8.8 points, 4.8 re-

bounds, 2.5 assists and 1.4 steals per game.

Although she said sophomore Lisa Branch is the team leader, Burket said she brings a type of leadership and experience that four years at A&M might bring.

"I'm pretty much a role player," she said. "I do whatever needs to be done."

"I'll say whatever needs to be said if Lisa doesn't say it. I do what I can to help us win."

Head coach Lynn Hickey agreed.

"She's a quiet leader—a leader by example is Beth Burket," Hickey said.

Branch said Burket always comes up with the big rebound when needed and when she's hot she's not going to miss.

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Beth Burket

A&M men's basketball returns to G. Rollie against Houston

By Drew Diener

THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M men's basketball team returns home to G. Rollie White Coliseum tonight to face the University of Houston at 7 p.m.

The Aggies (14-6, 7-1 in the Southwest conference) will try to get back on the winning track after falling victim to the University of Texas in Austin Saturday. The loss broke the Aggies' eight-game SWC winning streak dating back to last season.

"We put that game behind us," A&M junior forward Joe Wilbert said. "We've got six games left in conference and we need to focus on

those six games."

Houston (4-16, 2-7 in the SWC) has won two of their last three games, including a 76-64 upset of Texas Tech University on Saturday in Houston.

With such a big win, Houston head coach Alvin Brooks said his team is excited about their rematch with A&M. In their first meeting Jan. 19 in Houston, the Aggies defeated the Cougars 67-60.

"We know they (A&M) will be ready coming off the loss at Texas," Brooks said. "We're ready for this type of game now."

"I'm anxious to see how our young guys are going to step up to this challenge."

The Cougars have been led by sophomore forward Tim Moore who is averaging 18.8 points per game in SWC play and is a leading contender for SWC Newcomer of the Year honors.

A&M head coach Tony Barone said stopping Moore, who had 10 points and eight rebounds against A&M last time, is a concern for the team.

In addition to Moore, the play of senior guard Anthony Goldwire and junior forward Jessie Drain has been instrumental in the Cougars' recent success.

Goldwire is averaging 17.6 ppg this season including a 29-point performance against Texas Christ-

ian University last week. The 6-foot-7 Drain has canned 40 three-pointers this season.

A&M senior point-guard David Edwards said he anticipates facing a tougher Cougar team this time around.

"I think they are going to try to knock us off," Edwards said. "Hopefully we can maintain and stay on top."

Barone said he is optimistic about the remainder of the season and do not intend to look past tonight's game.

"I thought our kids had a good focus," Barone said. "I know they're anxious to get back on the court."

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THE WALK

SENIORS WALK LINE OF DEAD ELEPHANTS

Class of '95 occupies juniors to clean up tradition.



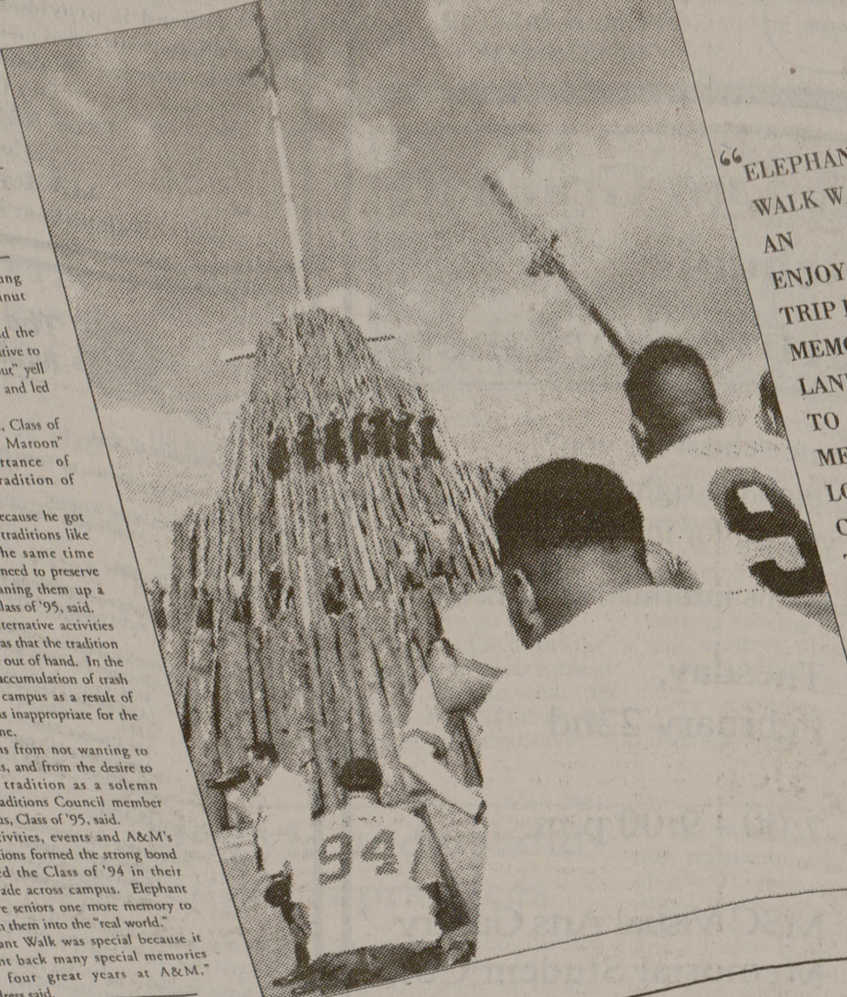
Senior redpots gather at Fish Pond on their symbolic walk through campus. Elephant Walk symbolizes their final days together before graduation.

"shoot" the elephants. Juniors flung items such as shaving cream, peanut butter and other messy condiments. In '93 the Traditions Council and the Class of '95 officers had an alternative to "shooting" the seniors. A "pull-out" yell practice was held at Bonfire site and led by the junior yell leaders. After yell practice, Frank Cox, Class of '65 and author of "I Bleed Maroon" spoke about the importance of preserving the solemn tradition of Elephant Walk.

"The speaker was great because he got everyone fired up about traditions like Elephant Walk, and the same time explained to us why we need to preserve these traditions by cleaning them up a bit," Arjan Bormans, Class of '95, said. The reason for the alternative activities for the Class of '95 was that the tradition was beginning to get out of hand. In the past, the unsightly accumulation of trash and vandalism on campus as a result of Elephant Walk was inappropriate for the Thanksgiving game.

"The need stems from not wanting to ruin the campus, and from the desire to preserve the tradition as a solemn occasion," Traditions Council member Kristen Nevius, Class of '95, said. Friends, activities, events and A&M's many traditions formed the strong bond that united the Class of '94 in their dying parade across campus. Elephant Walk gave seniors one more memory to take with them into the "real world."

"Elephant Walk was special because it brought back many special memories from four great years at A&M," Childress said. Kathy Jordan



"ELEPHANT WALK WAS AN ENJOYABLE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE, NOT TO MENTION A LOT CLEANER THAN IN THE PAST."

Lance Childress
Class of '94

Seniors begin yell practice at Bonfire site, the last stop on the Elephant Walk trail. "Pull out" yell was held earlier at Bonfire site to prevent juniors from bombarding walking seniors with various forms of litter.

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