

SPORTS

Thursday, February 24, 1994

THE BATTALION

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Aggies split games against Bobcats

A&M loses first to SW Texas State, looks to rebound

By Drew Diener

THE BATTALION

Fifth ranked Texas A&M suffered its first loss of the season in the second game a doubleheader with Southwest Texas State Wednesday afternoon at Olsen Field.

After defeating the Bobcats, 5-4, in 10 innings in game one, the Aggies went cold in the nightcap, losing 6-1.

The loss dropped the Aggies' record to 9-1 on the season. Southwest also dealt the Aggies their first defeat of the season a year ago.

Senior designated hitter Billy Harlan said A&M was in a rut all day long.

"You have to be ready every

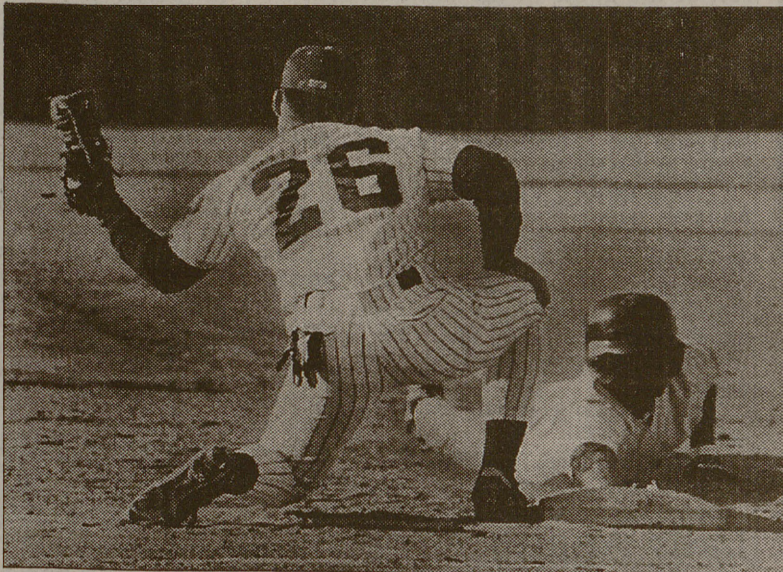
pitch," Harlan said. "For some reason or another we weren't ready to play today."

The Bobcats broke it open in the second inning of game two by touching A&M starting pitcher John Cordington for four runs.

The sophomore righthander was pulled from the game with two outs in the inning after the fourth run scored following an error on sophomore centerfielder Chad Alexander.

Alexander collided with freshman second baseman Tom Collard on a routine fly that allowed Bobcat second baseman Mack Steele to score from second.

Junior lefthander Spencer McIntyre replaced Cordington and walked the first batter he faced, Bobcat designated hitter Chad Potts, on four straight pitches. With two on and two out, McIntyre fanned first baseman James



William Harrison/ THE BATTALION

Southwest Texas State shortstop Rocky Padilla (right) is picked off of first base by Jason Stephens (26) in the second game of the Aggies-Bobcats doubleheader Wednesday. A&M lost 6-1.

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Lady Aggies lose first of two against Mavericks

By Stewart Doreen

THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Lady softball team, coming off their championship weekend, split a doubleheader with the Lady Mavericks of the University of Texas at Arlington.

The Aggies lost the first game, wasting a strong performance by freshman pitcher Christy Bunting. The Aggies gave up two runs in the top of the seventh and had their comeback come one run short in the bottom of the seventh.

The Aggies offense that had come to life during this weekend's tournament was shut down in the first game by UTA's Christina Grimes, who held the Aggies to one run on five hits.

Despite the lack of offense, the Lady Aggies seem quite pleased with Bunting's 10-strikeout performance.

"She had every reason to win the ball game," assistant coach Shawn Andaya said. "If we'd got a couple hits here and there

maybe we would have won."

Bunting's record fell to 0-4, but Andaya insists that the record is quite deceiving.

"Two of the losses are against Arizona, which is the No. 1 team in the nation, in which she did pitch a great game," Andaya said. "I think Christy is going to be one of the most promising pitchers of the future."

The Lady Aggies got their wake up call in the second game. After UTA scored one run in the top of the first, the Aggies used a double by freshman Mary Mapp to start the hitting onslaught and to build a 3-1 lead after the first.

That lead would stay safe with staff ace, senior Kim Gonzalez on the mound. However, Gonzalez did get help when Gina Perez made a run-saving, diving catch with two on in the top of the fourth.

Gonzalez raised her record to 7-3, allowing only four hits over the five innings she pitched and the Lady Aggies went on to win

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A&M women's basketball survives poor-shooting drought, out-rebounds Lady Horned Frogs to clinch 18th win

By Jose de Jesus Ortiz

THE BATTALION

The Lady Aggies had their second-worst shooting performance of the year yesterday, but pulled down 63 rebounds -32 offensive- and -downed Texas Christian University 86-65.

Texas A&M senior forward Beth Burkett, who scored 16 points and led A&M on the boards with a career-high 1, said the Aggies were not bothered by their shooting.

"Everyone wants their shots to fall," Burkett said, "but we did such a good job rebounding that it didn't bother us."

Head coach Lynn Hickey also said she was not worried by the shooting because

A&M (18-5, 9-2 in the Southwest Conference) hustled and Most of the players saw action.

"We have a lot of kids," Hickey said. "And as a coach, a good way to keep team unity is to give kids a chance to play."

"I am not going to be down by beating someone by 20. We scored 83 points, got 63 rebounds and played 14 players; I am very satisfied."

Sophomore center Martha McClelland 22 points against TCU (5-17, 1-11 in the SWC) tied her career-high scoring and was her fourth 20 point-plus scoring performance this season.

McClelland said her teammates did a good job getting her and sophomore center Kelly Cerny the ball.

"Each time we took the ball down court," McClelland said, "the focus was for us to put it in to me and Kelly."

The Lady Horned Frogs trailed Texas A&M 28-25 with 7:37 left in the first half, but that was the closest TCU got to A&M the rest of the way and started the second half 43-33.

The Lady Aggies went on several six-point scoring drives, and Hickey, with 4:00 minutes remaining in the game, took out most of the starters.

Only sophomore point guard Lisa Branch, who scored 12 points and had six assists, played more than three quarters of the game for A&M.

Wilbert leads Aggies to victory over hapless TCU men's team

The Associated Press

FORT WORTH — Texas A&M's Joe Wilbert hit all seven of his field goal tries and scored 18 points Wednesday as the Aggies remained in first place in the Southwest Conference with an 86-60 victory over Texas Christian.

Texas A&M (17-6, 10-1 SWC) led 46-34 at the half, then shut down the Horned Frogs (6-17, 3-9) in the second period. TCU scored just two points in the first

eight minutes of the second half.

The Aggies outrebounded TCU 48-28, led by Brett Murry's 11.

Jeff Jacobs paced the Frogs with 17 points, including four-of-five 3-pointers. Damon Johnson added 13 points.

TCU managed to trim the Aggie lead to 59-45, but A&M closed out the game with a 27-15 run.

For the fifth time this year, TCU's leading scorer Kurt Thomas fouled out of an SWC game.

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THE WALK

SENIORS WALK LINE OF DEAD ELEPHANTS

Class of '95 occupies juniors to clean up tradition.

Thousands of Class of '94 students, mimicking promenade pachyderms roamed across campus during Elephant Walk '93.

The Class of '94 reminisced as they roamed the campus, symbolizing the end of their days at Texas A&M. After four years of hard work, the seniors laid themselves to rest.

"Thanks to all those involved in organizing it, the Class of '94's Elephant Walk was an enjoyable trip down memory lane, not to mention being a lot cleaner than in the past," Lance Childress, Class of '94, said.

A cherished tradition at A&M, Elephant Walk was a special time for all seniors. They wandered around campus imitating mournful elephants searching for a place to die, and in the spring the seniors were referred to as "dead elephants."

Traditionally, the junior class threw things at the seniors in an effort to

Senior redpans 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 '93 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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