

Former Aggie stars could go big in NFL Draft

Willie Corrington

Sportswriter



Sunday, April 24 will mark an interesting confluence in the sports calendar. On this day, the NBA regular season will come to a close and the upcoming NFL season will begin, in a manner of speaking, with its players draft. Draft day is when Super Bowl champions are built and when every team has hopes of finding the missing piece to their puzzle.

For the potential draftees, however, this day can be a mixture of elation, apprehension and disappointment. In 1988, ESPN cameras were sent to the home of tailback Thurman Thomas, anticipating that he would be an early first round selection. Disgust turned to disbelief as running back after running back was selected before him. When he was finally drafted in round two by the Buffalo Bills, he was both relieved and hurt.

Several of A&M's 1993 team will be tuned in on Sunday, each with different expectations. For Aaron Glenn and Sam Adams, it's a matter of which team grabs them in the first round. Eric England and Greg Hill may have to wait a little longer, but their names will get called. For some Aggie seniors, just getting drafted will be a dream come true.

The last two drafts have seen A&M defensive backs get selected in the first round, Kevin Smith by Dallas in 1992 and Patrick Bates by the L.A. Raiders last year. Cornerback Aaron Glenn will make it three years in a row.

Glenn could, in fact, be the first defensive back taken. His recent 40-yard dash times have been below 4.4 seconds and his ability to

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Aggies hold off Lumberjacks, 3-2 A&M sailors qualify for nationals

By Drew Diener
The Battalion

Ryan Rupe earned his fifth victory of the season Tuesday night as the Aggies defeated Stephen F. Austin State University 3-2 at Olsen Field. The freshman righthander worked four shutout innings, yielding a pair of hits, striking out four and walking two.

A&M head coach Mark Johnson said he was pleased with Rupe's efforts.

"I thought Rupe threw better than he's thrown for the last two or three weeks," Johnson said. "I was encouraged by that."

The victory improved the Aggies record to 28-18 on the season while dropping the Lumberjacks mark to 12-35.

Junior shortstop Robert Harris homered in the first inning off of SFA starting pitcher John Box to give the Aggies an early 1-0 lead.

The Aggies added another run in the third when senior first baseman Billy Harlan doubled to

leftfield to score sophomore centerfielder Chad Alexander from first. Alexander reached first base on a fielder's choice that removed freshman leftfielder Sean Alvarez at second.

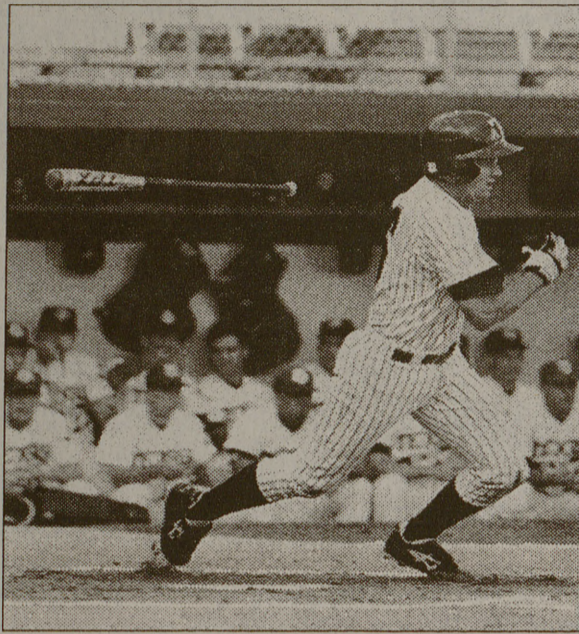
With Harlan on second and two out freshman rightfielder Chad Allen grounded-out to end the inning.

A&M posted their final run in the fifth inning when Alvarez scored from third on Harlan's fielder's choice. Harris was thrown out at second after he walked prior to Harlan's at bat.

Alvarez led the inning off with a bunt single and was moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Alexander. A Box wild pitch advanced Alexander to third before Harlan drove him in.

Senior pitcher Matt Sherwood, who relieved Rupe after the fourth inning, threw two scoreless innings before turning his duties over to Brian Parker in the

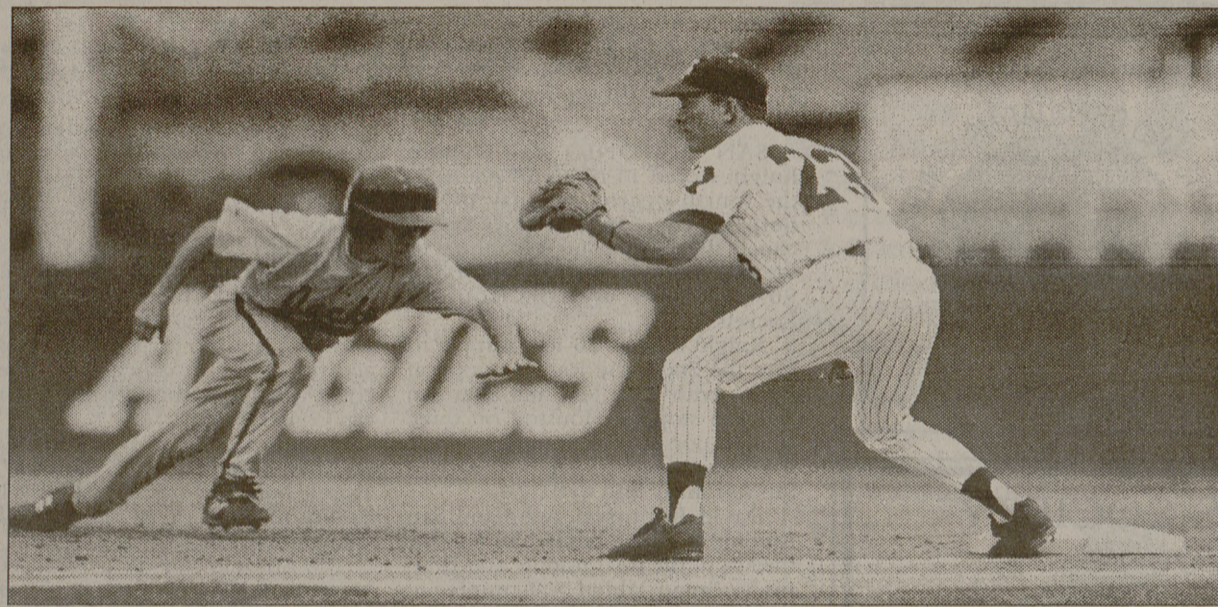
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Photos By Roger Hsieh/The Battalion

Above: A&M second baseman **Tommy Collard** takes off for first base as his bat goes flying in the opposite direction in Tuesday night's game against SFA. The second game of the scheduled doubleheader was rained out.

Right: SFA's **Chris Crawford** (left) leaps quickly back to first base before **Billy Harlan** can tag him out.



From Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M University's sailing team qualified for the national collegiate championships in dinghy racing by placing first in a field of six competitors in the Dinghy National Qualifier Meet April 16-17 in Austin.

1994 marks the fifth year in a row that the Aggie Sailors have qualified for the nationals in both team racing and dinghy and is the second year in which the Texas A&M team was the only one in its division of the South Eastern Intercollegiate Sailing Association (SEISA) to qualify for both.

Other competitors at the Austin competition, which was jointly hosted by the University of Texas and Texas A&M, were Springhill, second; UT, third; Tulane, fourth; Southern Methodist, fifth; and Baylor, sixth.

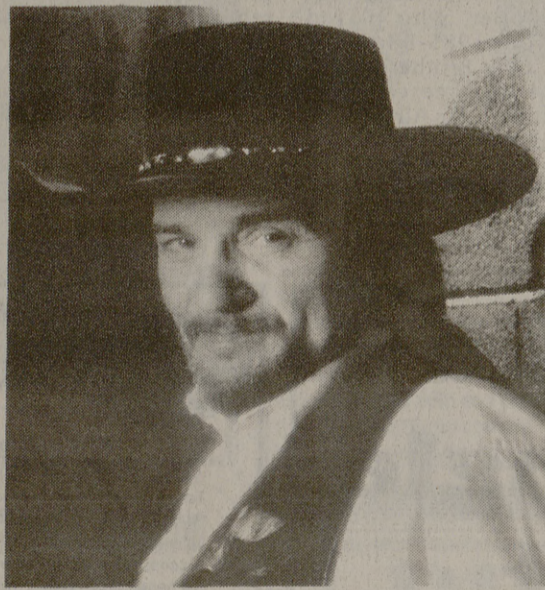
Winds for the 18 races April 16-17 were unpredictable, which caused problems for Aggie skipper Jason Morse, a junior from Kemah, and Simon Elliot, a senior and team captain from Wimberly. The Aggies Sailors would be dominating a race only to have the wind shift, placing them mid-fleet in just seconds. Morse, sailing with crew Sally Andrews, a senior from Garland, eventually took second in A Fleet; Elliot, sailing with Deanna Piper, a sophomore from Colleyville, tied for first in B Fleet.

At the conclusion of the meet, the Aggie sailing team and its members also received several district awards. The team received the Alyn Award, which is presented annually to the best team in the district. Morse and Elliot also were named members of the all-SEISA team, along with crew members Andrews and Aimee Davis, a freshman from Slidell, La.

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