

Monday • April 6, 1998

SPORTS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

Rockets succumb to Jordan's magic

HOUSTON (AP) — Michael Jordan scored 40 points and Scott Burrell led the Houston Rockets to a fourth-quarter surge as the Chicago Bulls extended their winning streak to 12 games — the longest in the NBA this season — with a 109-94 victory Sunday over the Houston Rockets.

Jordan already had 30 points and was on the bench to start the fourth quarter when Burrell and Pippen heated up to combine for Chicago's next 22 points and give Chicago its seventh straight road win.

Houston's Eddie Johnson opened the quarter with a basket to cut the Bulls' lead to 71-68. Burrell then scored 13 points, including three 3-pointers, and Pippen added nine as Chicago opened a 93-78 lead.

Jordan, who shot 18-of-31, rebounded with 6:01 to go and scored the next 10 Chicago points — including a one-handed alley-oop dunk off a 26-foot pass from Pippen to reach 40 with 1:56 left.

Unsuccessful Houston return

HOUSTON (AP) — The fans jumped Darryl Kile from the start. The Houston Astros didn't take long, either.

Craig Biggio had a three-run homer and pitcher Shane Reynolds had a two-run double against their former teammate in the second inning, leading the Astros over the Colorado Rockies 6-2 Sunday.

Kile (1-1) grew up in the Astros organization and was their ace last season, winning 19 games. But he left Houston in the offseason as a free agent, signing \$24 million, three-year contract with the Rockies.

It didn't take the Astros long to get to him, doing it with two outs in the five-run second inning when Kile's control deserted him.

A&M sweeps Missouri doubleheader

Aggies rejuvenate Big 12 Conference hopes with two wins over 11th-ranked Tigers on Sunday

By ROBERT HOLLIER
Staff writer

After splitting a doubleheader with Kansas on Saturday, the Texas A&M Softball Team (28-18-1, 4-4) desperately needed two wins to keep them in the Big 12 Conference race, and that is exactly what they got against the No. 11 Missouri Tigers on Sunday at the Aggie Softball Field.

In game one, the Aggies defeated the Tigers 4-0 behind the brilliant pitching of freshman Amy Vining who threw a complete game shutout, scattering five hits and striking out six and walking no one.

"Amy pitched her best game of the year," Coach Jo Evans said. "She was in total control all game and she had no let-ups."

Vining praised her defense and her catcher, and she gave them most of the credit for the win along with her ability to hit her spots all game.

"I was living on the outside all day with my curve," Vining said. "Amy (Schmaltz) called a great game and my defense was behind me all day. It was definitely our best game of the year."

The scoring did not start until the bottom of the fourth when sophomore left fielder Angie Long hit her first home run of the year over the left field fence to give the Aggies a 1-0 lead.

"All I know, was that it was a fast pitch and it was a strike," Long said. "I didn't think it was gone at first; that's why I was sprinting so hard to second after I hit it."

A&M opened up their lead in the bottom of the sixth when they combined three hits and one Missouri error to plate three runs and take a 4-0 lead.

Freshmen Tiffany Esters and Ashley Lewis each had RBI in the inning.

Vining then secured the win with a dominant seventh to pick up her ninth win of the season and completed the huge win for the Aggies.

Evans said the team played a wonderful game and was pleased with all aspects of her team's play.

"In the first game, we were totally dominating," Evans said. "It's the best we've looked in the two years I've been coaching here."

However, the Aggies good play did not stop there as they were able to complete the sweep with a 4-1 victory in game two.

The Tigers started the scoring in the top of the fourth when Missouri second baseman Jamie Lowry singled and took second on an error.

After two outs, freshman starter Kristina Gandara walked the next batter and then gave up a run-scoring double to first baseman Christy Skouby which knocked Gandara out of the game because of problems hitting her spots.

However, Lewis came in and struck out the next batter to end the scoring threat after Gandara threw three-and-two-

thirds innings, giving up five hits and one run, striking out one and walking two.

The Aggies answered right back in the bottom of the fourth when Lewis connected on her fourth home run of the year to tie the score at 1-1.

"I was looking for a change up and that's what I got," Lewis said.

A&M increased their lead in the bottom of the fifth with back-to-back run-scoring doubles by senior right fielder Tanya Klecker and sophomore left fielder Angie Long to give A&M a 3-1 lead.

The Aggies padded their lead in the fourth with another run when first baseman Julie McMullen drove in the Aggies fourth and final run of the game.

The Aggies committed two errors in the top of the seventh to keep the game interesting, but Lewis retired the next three batters to end the game and pick up her 11th win of the year.

Lewis threw three-and-a-third innings and only gave up one hit and walked no one.

"If you don't walk anybody, you usually win," Lewis said. "I was able to keep the ball down and get a lot of ground ball outs. I think this series was a big step for me and the team."

Evans was pleased with her team's overall performance and is excited about the way her team played.

"This series was a huge boost for our team and our program," Evans said.

"I was really pleased with the way Ashley came in and finished the game. Our defense played great and our pitching was totally dominating."



Evans

Women's team shines, men's team suffers at Texas Relays

By MICHAEL FERGUSON
Staff writer

In the 71st edition of its storied history, the Texas Relays were run for the final time at Darrell K. Royal Memorial Stadium this past weekend. The Relays will continue next year, but they will take place in Mike A. Myers Stadium, a new facility located adjacent to Memorial Stadium and designated strictly for track and field and soccer.

Texas A&M has enjoyed considerable success at the Relays over the years, but entered this year's version somewhat crippled from nagging injuries still lingering in the indoor season.

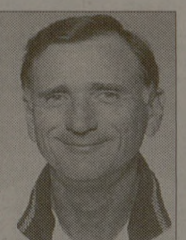
The Aggie women entered the meet with at No. 12 in the latest *Trackwire* U.S.A. rankings and were projected to score 20 points. They surpassed that expectation by far, scoring over 40 points and continuing to show signs of improvement.

Leading the way for the women was once again freshman sensation Esther Eisenlauer, who for the third straight meet won the javelin with a throw of 53.24 meters (174 ft., 8 in.). Eisenlauer spoke about the event following her victory.

"I'm very happy with my throws," Eisenlauer said. "My goal was to throw over 52 meters and to win, so I'm very happy."

Originally from Germany, Eisenlauer attributed her success to her increased workout regime and mentioned her feelings about her first Texas Relays.

"Here, I practice every day," she said. "In Germany, I practiced maybe three times a week. Everything's so big here. I can't believe



Nelson

it. It's very overwhelming."

Senior Rosa Jolivet also continued to do well, finishing second in both the women's invitational 100-meter hurdles and the 400-meter hurdles. Sophomore Chimika Carter also entered the invitational 100-meter hurdles and finished in fifth place.

Senior Adrien Sawyer was still able to finish fourth in the university 100-meter hurdles, despite hitting the fourth hurdle and having her rhythm thrown off. In the triple jump, junior Detrich Clariett finished in second place after her jump of 12.93 meters.

Also scoring points for the women were senior Milli Ondras in the 10,000-meter run and freshman Meshell Trotter in the hammer throw.

The men entered the meet with a No. 20 national ranking and were expected to score 15 points. However, with the absence of All-Americans Larry Wade, Billy Fobbs, Toya

Jones and Michael Price as well as pole vaulters Jon Nance and Rich McDonald, they were unable to obtain that point total.

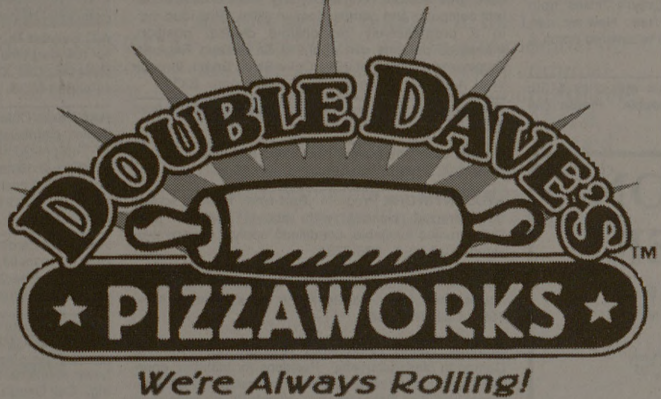
Scoring points for the men were senior Todd Fox in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, freshman Mike Hummel in the mile, freshman Bashir Ramzy in the invitational 110-meter hurdles and the 4x400-meter relay team.

Coach Ted Nelson mentioned the limited men's team following the meet.

"This is a big meet and I wanted our group to do good," Nelson said. "But sometimes you have to just take your lumps and do what you think is really best in the long run for your team."

"We're not exactly where Texas A&M needs to be, but I think by resting those people, we're going to get there."

This Saturday, April 11, Texas A&M will host the A&M Invitational which should see those athletes return to competition.



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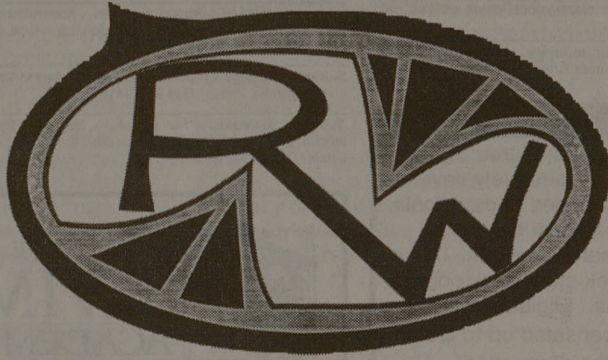
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Resurrection Week '98
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WHO IS JESUS?

1998 Resurrection Week

Mon. April 6		
Jesus Video	Rudder Fountain, FHK	8 pm
A historical film about the life of Jesus		
Prayer Walk	Outside All Faiths	10 pm
Tue. April 7		
"Watch the Lamb" Drama	Sul Ross	12:30 pm
Darrel Bock	Rudder Auditorium	7 pm
Professor at Dallas Theological Seminary Topic: Jesus - Religious Great, Something More or Something Less?		
Wed. April 8		
Third Day Concert	Rudder Auditorium	7 pm
Tickets are Free!!!! Tickets Available at MSC Box Office or At the Door. Doors open at 6 pm		
Thurs. April 9		
Prayer Breakfast	12th Man	8 am
Crucifixion Scene	Rudder Fountain	12:30 pm
Guest Speaker: Greg Matte, Breakaway Ministries		