

Softball hosts tourney

BY BREE HOLZ
The Battalion

The Texas A&M softball team will attempt to bounce back from a four-game skid suffered last weekend when it hosts the GTE Aggie Invitational 1 at the Aggie Softball Complex.

The tournament will start today and continue through Sunday, with the Aggies taking on the Colorado State University Rams (2-3) Friday at 4:30 p.m. Other teams competing in the tournament are the Centenary Ladies (1-6) and New Mexico State University (4-4).

A&M coach Jo Evans said this weekend could hold some fierce competition for the Aggies.

"Colorado State has lost some close games to ranked teams," she said. "They've got a quick short-stop and a junior college transfer that are both really great players."

"New Mexico State has a new coach that used to coach at Southwest Texas State, so they should also be tough for us."

Evans said the team is most excited about playing at home again. "Our team is ready to play on our own field," she said. "Playing at home should help us regain some confidence."

A&M is 2-4 on the season,

losing four consecutive games in the Fiesta Bowl Classic in Arizona last weekend.

The Aggies won their first game of the tournament against No. 18 University of South Carolina in a come-from-behind victory, but failed to continue the streak.

Evans said last weekend's losses can be attributed to a lack of consistency.

"We failed to be consistent with our offense and defense," she said. "We committed too many errors defensively, and our offense stranded too many runners. Consistency is what we really need to work on this weekend."

The starting pitcher for the tournament will be junior Amy Vining. Evans said Vining will probably pitch at least once a day throughout the tournament.

"I would like Amy to get a lot of throws in this weekend," she said. "It all depends on her stamina and how she's throwing."

Evans said she is confident in her other pitchers if Vining runs into problems.

"We've got some great pitchers that have pitched very well for us this season so far," she said. "They've given us some good innings, so I feel very good about putting them in at any time."

Ags host 'Cats in three-game series

BY DOUG SHILLING
The Battalion

The Texas A&M baseball team has racked up the frequent flyer miles at the beginning of this season, playing seven of its first eight games on the road.

These nomads have found their way home however, getting to play eight of its next nine games at Olsen Field.

The home stand begins Friday, as the Aggies (3-5) begin a three-game series with the University of Arizona Wildcats (9-6) at 3 p.m.

A&M senior second baseman Sean Heaney said returning home will have a good impact on the team.

"There's not a better feeling," Heaney said. "I'm so glad. I'm sick of being on the road. I'm ready to get back here and play some games. This is when we need to start getting on our run and win a bunch of games."

The Aggies got a good start on a run Tuesday, breaking out offensively in an 11-6 win over Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.

Freshman center fielder David Evans led the Aggie attack with five hits while freshman shortstop Ryan Wardinsky chipped in four.

A&M junior right fielder Daylan Holt said the Aggies finally hit on all cylinders Tuesday.



A&M junior right fielder Daylan Holt slides into home plate Tuesday during the Aggies' 11-6 victory over Southwest Texas State University Bobcats at San Marcos.

"It's about time we got everything going," Holt said. "We played Tuesday like we're capable of playing."

"The pitchers have done a good job all year long and they're going to continue to do that. So, all we have to do is hit for them and we'll be very successful."

Against Arizona, A&M will face one of the better pitchers in the nation in sophomore Ben Diggins.

Diggins is a power pitcher whose best pitch is a fastball that has been clocked as high as 98 mph.

For the year, he is 2-0 with a 3.04 ERA with 24 strikeouts in 23 2/3 innings.

The Aggies roughed up Diggins last year when the two teams met in Tuscon.

A&M touched him up for seven runs on five hits in only 2 1/3

innings pitched.

Despite his performance against the Aggies last year, A&M baseball coach Mark Johnson, who coached Diggins this summer on the USA Baseball National team, said he is the type of pitcher that can stop a team in its tracks.

"The pitcher can stop momentum real quick," Johnson said. "It'll be real interesting in the first game because we're facing Ben Diggins, who could be the first guy picked in the first round."

"He's gonna run it up there 97 to 98 [mph]. He's a good player. He can stymie an offense no matter how good you are."

Holt, who played with Diggins this summer, said Diggins will easily be the hardest thrower the Aggies have faced this year.

"It's going to be a little different for us because I think the

fastest person we've seen has thrown 85 [mph]," Holt said.

"But we've also had to stay back on those guys, think bringing Ben in here, trying to be good for us because we're a good fastball hitting team. It can be good or it can be bad, we're ready, I think it'll be good."

Diggins will pitch in the game against A&M sophomore Grant Gregg who is 1-1 in season with a 3.75 ERA.

Saturday's matchup will be A&M freshman Todd Denton (1-1, 1.69 ERA) against A&M Michael Crawford (2-2, 1.50 ERA).

Sophomore Khalid Ballou (2, 4.15 ERA) will take the mound for A&M against Arizona's Pemble (3-0, 3.97 ERA).

First pitch Saturday is scheduled for 2 p.m. and Sunday is 1 p.m.

Worship Directory

Assembly of God

Bethel Temple Assembly of God
2608 Villa Maria, Bryan
776-4835
Sunday Worship 8:30, 10:45, 6:00 pm
College & Career Class Sun. 9:30
Randy Scott, Pastor
www.startel.net/bethel

Baptist

Texas Avenue Baptist Church
3400 Texas Avenue South, C.S.
(at the intersection of Deacon & Texas Ave.)
696-6000
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Bible Study 4 p.m.,
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Pastor Eric Doucet

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Living Hope Baptist Church
Sunday Schedule:
9:45 AM Bible Study
11:00 AM Worship
6:30 PM Worship
INFO: 690-1911

We are NOW meeting at Cypress Grove Inter. School on Graham Rd. between Wellborn and the West bypass service Road.

Bible

Grace Bible Church
700 Anderson, College Station
693-2911
Services: 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
College Sunday School Class 9:15 & 11 a.m.

Catholic

St. Mary's
603 Church Ave., 846-5717

Pastoral Team
Rev. Michael J. Sis, Pastor
Rev. David A. Konderla, Associate Pastor

Campus Ministers
Deacon Bill Scott • Martha Tonn
Lillian Smith • Maureen Murray
Heidi Nicolini

Daily Masses
Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m.
Tues, Thurs: 12:05 Noon
All Faith's Chapel on A&M Campus
Sat.: 10:30 a.m. (Korean)

Weekend Masses
Sat. - 5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 (Spanish)
Sun. - 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:30, 7:00 p.m.

Christian

First Christian Church
900 South Ennis, Bryan
823-5451
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Dr. Andrew Pate, Jr., Minister

Church of Christ

Bryan / College Station Church of Christ

| Sunday | Wednesday |
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| Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. | Bible Class 7:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. |

College Station, Conference Center
Lubbock, George Bush Inn TAMU, Out Center
(409) 731-1230
Email: mark-d@tamu.edu or mwm@tamu.edu

Episcopal

St. Thomas Episcopal
906 George Bush Dr. - College Station, TX
(Across from Duncan Dining Hall)
Sunday services at 8:00, 9:00 and especially for late rising Ags, 11:15 a.m.
Next door to Canterbury House, the Episcopal Student Center

Free Will Baptist

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church
College & Career Class
You are invited to a Bible study especially for students.
Sunday mornings at 9:45
1228 W. Villa Maria
779-2297

For more information contact
Marcus Brewer: 696-6558
mbrewer@tamu.edu
<http://PersonalWebs.myriad.net/fwb>

Lutheran

Peace Lutheran Church
FM 2818 at Rio Grande • College Station
Worship 8:15 & 10:45
Aggie Lutherans
Craig Borchardt - Pastor Debra Grant - Pastor
2201 Rio Grande Blvd. 693-4403

Non-Denominational

Covenant Family Church
"Success Begins on Sunday"
Danny & Janet Green, Pastors
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
4010 Harvey Rd. (Hwy. 30) E-Mail: greencd@aol.com
College Station 774-1269 www.covenant-family-church.org

United Methodist

A&M United Methodist
417 University Dr. (on Northgate) • 846-8731
Sunday Services: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
College Sunday School 9:45
Sr. Pastor Charles Anderson
amumc@tca.net

First United Methodist Church
28th & Houston St.,
1 block E. of Texas Ave., in Bryan
779-1324
Sunday Worship 9:40 & 10:55 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Rev. Harri Dunnam, Senior Pastor Rev. Bob Richers, Associate Pastor

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