

SPORTS
THE BATTALION

Roadrunners next for Aggies

By Doug Fuentes
THE BATTALION

The No. 13 Texas A&M baseball team will have a short time to enjoy its sweep over Texas Tech last weekend as it hosts the University of Texas-Arlington on Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Olsen Field.

The sweep was the first for the Aggies (13-4, 3-0 Big 12) over the Red Raiders since 1993. A&M won despite less than stellar performances from its top two pitchers. Sophomore Justin Moore and junior Khalid Ballouli had rough outings in Friday's doubleheader.

Moore lasted only four innings, giving up four runs on seven hits, while Ballouli lasted two innings, giving up four runs on five hits.

Despite their struggles, the Aggies were able to win because of strength of their bullpen.

"I feel good," said A&M head coach Mark Johnson. "There were some crazy things that happened. But it was good for the team. Moore and Ballouli didn't have their stuff, which is going to happen."

"There's going to be guys that don't have good games every game. It's a little odd to have your top two guys to be off on the same weekend. It gave an opportunity for some of the other guys to step up and I was really encouraged."

In Friday's first game, junior Zach Dixon and sophomores Robert Ramsey and Matt Farnum kept the Aggies in the game when Moore faltered.

When Ballouli and sopho-

more Kyle Parcus, who relieved him, struggled in Friday's second game, the Aggies found an unlikely contributor in freshman Logan Kensing.

Kensing shut down the Red Raiders, pitching 4 2/3 innings, allowing only two hits and striking out four batters.

"I don't really sweat bullets going to the bullpen right now," Johnson said. "It's not a major chore. We've taken some guys out this season, where in the past we would have left them in. You wait too long to find out if a guy is tired then you lose a ball game."

The Aggies had some help from unlikely contributors on offense against the Red Raiders.

With junior first baseman Travis Wong, A&M's leading hitter heading into the weekend, mired in an 0-for-20 slump, the Aggies looked to the bottom of the lineup for offense.

The Aggies found help in the form of senior second baseman Ty Garner and sophomore catcher Justin Pouk.

Garner, who had the game-tying home run and game-winning hit in Friday's first game, went 5-for-13 on the weekend with two RBIs and three runs scored. Pouk was 5-for-10 with two RBIs and a run scored.

"We had a lot of contributors this weekend," Johnson said. "The lower half of the lineup carried us. Early on in the season, particularly Wong and Alexander, were hot. We've had some guys slow down a little bit. Then we get a Garner and a Pouk to step up."

The Aggies will be facing a Mavericks (7-7) team that had



STUART VILLANUEVA • THE BATTALION
A&M sophomore third basemen Erik Schindewolf runs toward third base against Texas Tech last weekend. The Aggies host UTSA Tuesday night.

weather troubles of its own this past weekend.

The Mavericks rescheduled two games with TCU to a later date because of inclement weather, and will have played a game against the Horned Frogs on Monday before heading to Olsen Field.

UTA is led by Darrell Preston, who is batting .383 on the season and has a .500 on base percentage.

"We're going to have to play well to beat them," Johnson said. "I really like their infield. I like their center fielder and the speed in their lineup."

Johnson said if junior Todd Deining is ready, he will be on the mound against the Mavericks. Deining had a lengthy throwing session on Sunday and will have to feel all right for Tuesday. If not, Johnson said sophomore Chris French will start.

A&M hosts SFA, ACU in doubleheader

By Dallas Shipp
THE BATTALION

After a disappointing loss to No. 43 Arizona on Friday, the No. 18 Texas A&M

women's tennis team is hoping to bounce back against Abilene Christian and Stephen F. Austin in a doubleheader.

"Anytime you have a tough loss like that, you want to get

back out on the court as soon as you can," said A&M head coach Bobby Kleinecke. "We want to get that bad taste out of our mouths as soon as possible. Winning always tastes better than losing."

The Aggies (8-2, 2-0) look to improve their record to 10-2 on Tuesday against SFA and ACU.

The first match against SFA will begin at noon and marks the sixth meeting between the two schools. A&M has won all of the previous meetings in the series since 1982.

SFA is making the trip to College Station for the third consecutive year and enters the match having played only three matches this season.

The Lumberjacks' weekend doubleheader against Centenary and McNeese State was postponed because of the same arctic blast that invaded College Station Saturday.

"We've got a young team,"

said SFA head coach Bret Arrant. "We are very excited to have the opportunity to play an experienced team like Texas A&M."

The second match of the day will feature ACU (8-1), and the first serve is set for 6 p.m. The match will be the first meeting between the two schools and will give ACU another shot at a quality tennis team.

The Wildcats' lone defeat came at the hands of SMU, the only Division 1 school ACU has faced.

The doubleheader will give the deep Aggie lineup a chance to play different people at different positions for the first time in weeks after facing three ranked opponents, including No. 2 Vanderbilt.

"Even though we will be trying new things with new people, we are looking to take care of business on Tuesday," Kleinecke said.



STUART VILLANUEVA • THE BATTALION
Texas A&M senior Majorie Terburgh hits a backhand against Arizona on Friday. The Aggies play Abilene Christian and SFA on Tuesday.

Big 12

Continued from page 1B

team turn the ball over 31 times and win a game," Halterman said. "You couldn't really tell from that game, but our team has been playing a lot better lately, so hopefully we can get back to the level of play we had been

playing at and have some success at the tournament. It's not very often that teams win on each other's courts, but we'll have a neutral site to play at in Kansas City and if we want to win, we're going to have to find the level we were at before last week."

A&M may face an uphill battle on Tuesday if it opens the tournament without the services of Banahan, the team's leading

scorer, because of a severe ankle sprain suffered in Wednesday's loss.

"Obviously Meg (Banahan) is very important to our team," Gillom said. "When you lose your leading scorer, it puts you in a hole, but we don't have much of a choice other than to deal with it the best we can. We're going to show up ready to play and see what happens."

CLASSIFIED

Classifieds continued from pg. 2B

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