

# SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Page 1B • Thursday, March 27, 2003

## Beerer leads A&M past Lamar

By Dallas Shipp  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M baseball team started strong and never looked back at Olsen Field Wednesday night, beating Lamar University 6-3 in a game that was never in question after the first inning. Aggie junior left fielder Scott Beerer led the way for the Aggies with four hits, two of them doubles, and three RBI in the game.

Beerer has been working with Assistant Coach Dave Coleman on his hitting and said he thinks he found something he likes.

"I opened my stance and I stand up a lot more; it's allowed me to stay back a lot better," Beerer said. "Everything is slowing down for me right now. It's going really good right now."

A&M Head Coach Mark

Johnson said he has seen Beerer's improvement at the plate in his last few games.

"In (Beerer's) last 16 at bats he has a tremendous batting average," Johnson said. "He used all the field tonight. He got himself into some two strike counts and still got some hits. It was a good outing for him."

Aggie junior left-hander Kyle Parcus got the start for the Aggies and faced nine hitters in three innings of work. Parcus allowed one hit and struck out four.

"I saw how they were swinging and saw what I needed to do and then just got into a groove," Parcus said.

The Aggies got things started early with a base clearing three-run double by Beerer down the left field line off a 2-2 pitch.

Patton scored from first on Beerer's double on a close play at the plate, giving the Aggies an

early 3-0 lead.

"That was big, if you can score early and stretch it out right away and then have your pitcher go out and get three up and three down, that really sets the tone and I thought that was big for us."

Beerer added another double down the right field line in the bottom of the third and finished the night 4-4, with two doubles and three RBI.

A&M extended its lead to 4-0 in the bottom of the fourth inning when junior shortstop Matt Alexander drove in freshman infielder Cliff Pennington with a two-out double to the wall.

Lamar picked up a run in the top of the fifth off A&M senior reliever Dwayne Pollok. Winn led off the inning for the Cardinals with a double into right-centerfield. Cardinals catcher Matt Gowan drove in Winn from second on a two-out

single, cutting the lead to 4-1.

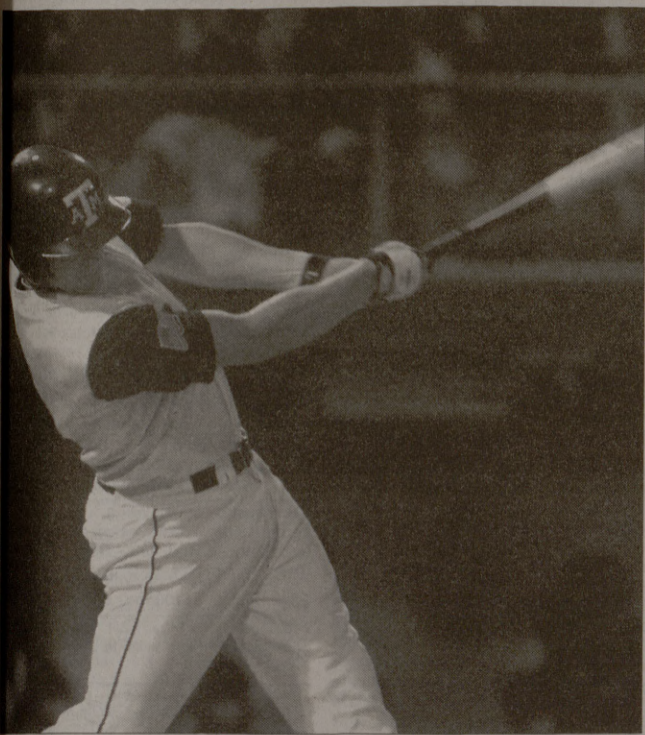
The Aggies scored one run in the bottom of the fifth and another in the bottom of the sixth, giving them a 6-1 lead.

Lamar threatened late in the top of the ninth after a two-run home run by Winn, cutting the Aggie lead to 6, but got no closer.

Lamar Head Coach Jim Gilligan said he hopes they can bounce back from Wednesday's loss.

"We didn't swing the bat like we were capable of," Gilligan said. "We didn't swing the bat like we needed to. A&M did a good job of pitching to us."

With the win A&M improves to 21-8 for the season. The Aggies will travel to Baylor University on Friday to start a three-game series that will return to College Station on Saturday and Sunday.



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

A&M junior Scott Beerer gets one of his four hits against Lamar University on Wednesday night. Beerer went 4-4 in the Aggies' win.

## Softball team sweeps series with Bearkats

By Jeff Allen  
THE BATTALION

After Tuesday's game was postponed due to poor weather, the No. 20 Texas A&M softball team played a doubleheader against the Sam Houston State Bearkats on Wednesday.

Following a struggle through the first game of the series, edging out the Bearkats, 5-3, on the strength of a late-inning home run by senior Crystal Martin, the Aggies regrouped to dismantle Sam Houston State in the nightcap 11-0 in a run-rule shortened affair.

"We were a little tight for the first

game," said Texas A&M Head Coach Joe Evans. "But it shows a lot of poise that we didn't press and come out and feel bad about ourselves (after the first game), and that we turned around and got it done."

The day started with the Aggies jumping out to an early lead in the first inning of game one, scoring two runs in the bottom half of the inning. But, the lead was short-lived as the Bearkats came back in the second to tie the score with a two-run homerun off the bat of Melissa Cosgrove.

The two teams exchanged single runs through the remainder of the game until the bottom of the sixth when Martin's home run sailed over the left field wall, giving the

Aggies the lead that they would not relinquish. Martin's game-winning hit mirrored her play last week when she was named Big 12 Player of the Week.

"I think we played really well (in the first game)," said Sam Houston State Head Coach Bob Brock. "We gave them all they could handle. Nobody likes to get behind the home team on a home run like that, but I thought we fought hard."

The momentum carried over into the second game for the Aggies. After getting an early lead once again, and playing effective defense through the first three innings, the Aggie bats finally came alive. In

the bottom half of the third inning, the Aggies sent eleven batters to the plate, scoring seven runs on five hits and putting the game out of the reach of the Bearkats. The game was ended after four innings via the mercy rule.

"In the second game of the doubleheader we've been having a little trouble," Brock said.

The hard time for Sam Houston State was largely a result of A&M junior Jessica Slataper's pitching. Slataper pitched a perfect game in the four-inning contest.

"We were a little flat in the first game," Slataper said. "I needed to come out and throw strikes, but (scoring 11 runs) makes you breathe a little easier."



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Freshman Lindsay Park rushes to meet a bunt while Sam Houston State's Sarah Sweeney heads to second.



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