

SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Page 5 • Wednesday, April 7, 2004

Baseball sweeps Sam Houston Men's tennis takes Rice, 4-3

By Jordan Meserole
THE BATTALION

The No. 15 Texas A&M baseball team completed a season series sweep of Sam Houston State University Tuesday night with an 8-3 win at C. E. "Pat" Olsen Field, the first two victories coming on Feb. 17 and March 17.

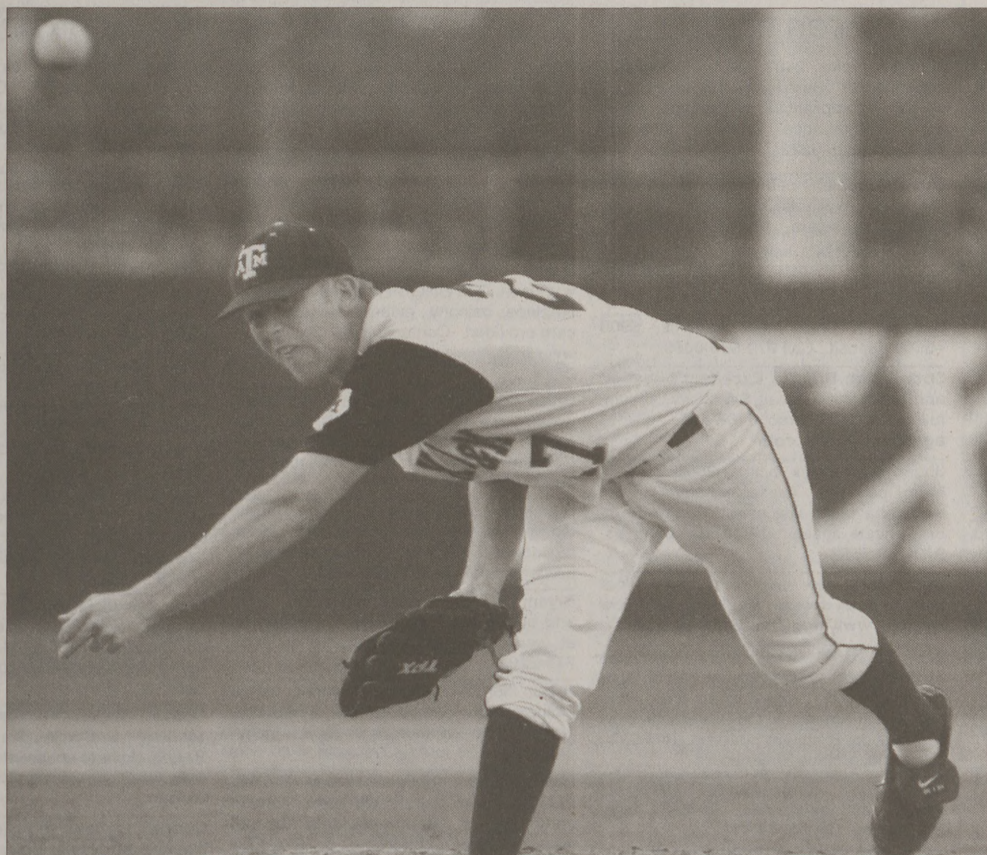
The Aggies (27-8, 4-5 Big 12) benefited from especially strong pitching and key situational hits to grab the win over the Bearkats (12-17-1, 6-3 Southland Conference).

"It's a good win for us," said A&M head coach Mark Johnson. "Tuesday nights get a little tougher as the season gets longer because you push harder on the weekend conference games, but our guys came out and got the job done."

The Tuesday night game proved to be closer than the first two games, with A&M scoring 15 runs in each of the first two games, holding Sam Houston to only five total runs in the same games.

"We've definitely gotten better," said Sam Houston head coach Chris Rupp. "We had a really rough schedule the first of the season, but we've turned things around and the guys are really starting to believe in themselves."

The Aggies jumped out to an early lead in the first inning against Bearkat senior starting



JOSHUA HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Sophomore Dan Donaldson pitched three innings against Sam Houston State Tuesday night.

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By Kyle Davoust
THE BATTALION

With a 4-3 win over No. 11 Rice University on Tuesday, the No. 25 Texas A&M men's tennis team lived up to its potential with a come-from-behind win over a top-ranked team.

For most of the season, A&M coach Tim Cass has been left to wonder what his team could do with a greater focus. Tuesday's effort might have helped answer some of his questions.

In a somewhat controversial move, Cass decided to tweak his doubles lineup by splitting up the nation's No. 1 doubles team of juniors Lester Cook and Ante Matijevic. The move spoiled the duo's anticipated match-up against Rice's team of seniors Richard and William Barker, currently ranked No. 6.

Instead, Cook paired with freshman Brett Joelson, while Matijevic teamed with senior Mohamed Dakki.

This decision angered Rice coach Ron Smarr, who wanted his team to face the Aggies' top team.

"I like the lineup A&M put out there. Split the team up and we didn't get to play the No. 1 team in the country," Smarr said. "That's bush league, and I told him so ... But that didn't beat us, and had nothing to do with the

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Aggie softball travels to Austin today

By Ryan Irby
THE BATTALION

Having spent most of the past two weeks away from College Station, the Texas A&M softball team will continue the trend, traveling to Austin on Wednesday for a showdown with the University of Texas. A&M (22-16, 4-1 Big 12) will take on a struggling Texas team which has been swept by the University of Missouri and the University of

Oklahoma and carries a winless Big 12 record into the game.

The Longhorns (18-14, 0-4) are less potent than last year's squad, which is good news for the Aggies.

A&M is coming off a stand against Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, that surely put a smile on the face of head coach Jo Evans, as the team went 2-0 to put them in third place overall in the Big 12.

"Every conference win is a great win," Evans

said, speaking about the two A&M stole in Ames.

Junior shortstop Adrian Gregory and senior pitcher Jessica Kapchinski led the Aggies through the weekend, as Gregory hammered a home run in the seventh inning of Sunday's matchup with the Cyclones to break a scoreless tie. Kapchinski fanned 10 hitters in Saturday's opener with ISU and took the win in that game and Sunday's



JP BEATO III • THE BATTALION

Senior Jessica Stataoper pitches against Texas A&M Corpus Christi early this season.

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