

SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Page 3 • Wednesday, June 23, 2004

That's a wrap

The good, the bad and the ugly from the 2004 A&M baseball season

By Ryan Irby
THE BATTALION

With another season under its belt, the 2004 Texas A&M baseball team can look back on this past spring with revelry, pride and anticipation of great things to come in future years. Although the boys of summer may be gone for another year, the 2004 campaign will leave memories of highs and lows, and a mix of everything in between.

Leaping out to a 10-0 record before dropping their first contest to eventual College World Series contender University of Arkansas, the Aggies played with aggression as they mounted a 20-2 record heading into Big 12 play against Baylor University on March 19. It was A&M's best start since 1993. Faltering a bit heading into conference play by dropping two of three to the Bears, the Aggies endured a short stint that saw them drop three of four games, including a 15-10 home loss to the 2003 National Champion



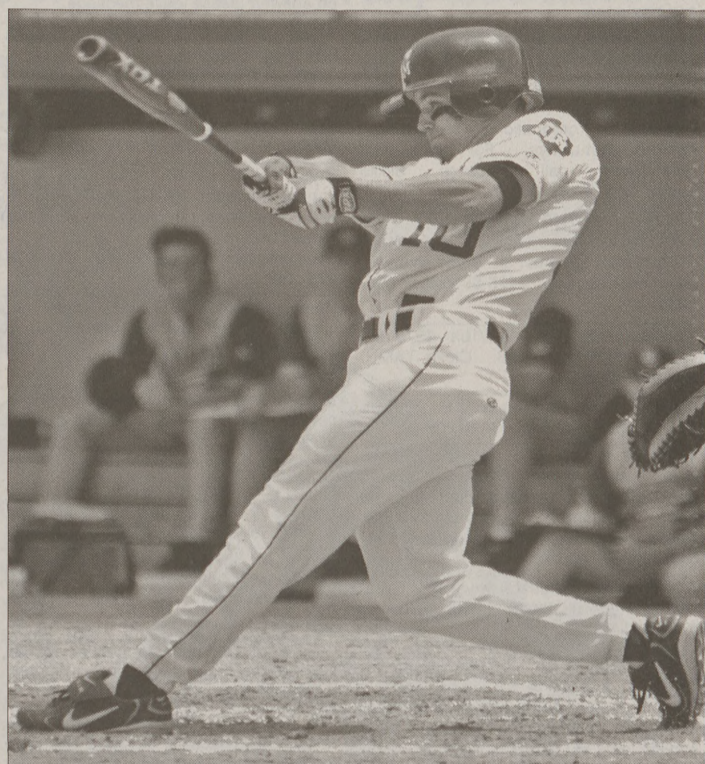
BRIAN WILLS • THE BATTALION

Texas A&M freshman third baseman **Austin Boggs** dives for a ground ball during a April 16 game against University of Oklahoma. A&M won the game 11-8 in front of a record crowd on parents weekend.

Rice Owls. In a game that saw the Aggies down by as many as 12 runs, the Aggie spirit would not fade as A&M rallied to cut the lead to five. Rice would hold on to win in what was to be a preview of the Aggies' eventual rematch with the Owls in the Houston Regional.

A&M would take its 21-5 record into the heart of Big 12 play, stealing a series each from Texas Tech, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas State. The Aggies took games from the University of Texas-San Antonio, Lamar University, the University of Houston, Texas

State University and Sam Houston State University along the way, maintaining a perfect 3-0 record against the perennially hopeful Bearkats and outscoring them 38-8.



BRIAN WILLS • THE BATTALION

A&M Sophomore **Travis Bartek** connects for a hit April 16 against University of Oklahoma. Bartek finished the game 1 for 4 with 3 RBIs.

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