

Rangers Gamble, Lose 4-3

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

Riverside came within one play Saturday of sending the District 2-AAAA baseball race into a two-team deadlock.

The Rangers battled the Eastwood Troopers on even terms but gambled and lost on a controversial baserunning play with the Troop hanging on for a 4-3 victory.

The win kept Eastwood from dropping back into a tie with the second place Ysleta Indians, who are now a game behind at 6-4. The Indians were idle Saturday.

In the only other school boy baseball game, Frank Yzaguirre blasted a solo homer in the fifth inning to lead the Bel Air Highlanders to a 4-3 win over Parkland.

The disputed call occurred in the top half of the sixth inning with the Rangers trailing the Brigade 4-2. The Ranger's David Vasquez reached first base on a walk and Polo Gonzalez went in to pinch run. Then Norm Marestein grounded to Troop third baseman Bill Thomson, who threw over first baser Vic Isenberg's head. Gonzalez raced hom on the play and Sausameda attempted to reach third, but Thomson was waiting there for Isenberg's throw and tagged the baserunner out.

Riverside Coach Ron Forbis contested the call by claiming that Thomson had obstructed the base path. "I'm a coach and I may be biased," said Forbis, "but I know that there was obstruction. It hurts to take the game away from the kids when they've played a super game. That call hurt us and it could've very well have changed the outcome."

The difficult part of the disputed call for Forbis to accept was that instead of Riverside having one out with a man on third base, the Rangers had two men out with no men on base. The next man to bat, Vic Calzada, flew out to the center fielder, but it was questioned whether the ball was hit long enough for Marestein to have advanced home.

The Rangers were the first to draw blood by scoring two runs in the third stanza when Kiki Beltran singled. Danny Martinez then grounded to short, but second baseman Richard Bombard missed Paul Divis' throw and the ball went into center field scoring Beltran. As Martinez headed for third, Bombard overthrew Thomson to give the Rangers their 2-0 lead.

The Troopers came back in the bottom half of the frame with four runs. David Segapeli started things off after two outs with an infield base hit. Divis then shot one up the middle with Segapeli moving to second.

Bruce McDonald took the win for Eastwood with Lonnie Dugger doing some of the dirty work while in relief for three innings. "Anytime you ask a relief pitcher to come in you're asking an awful lot," Eastwood Coach Jim Pufal said. "You soon find out how much heart they have."

"We played tight defensively," he added. "We had to be defensive plays when we had to."

Cox recorded his first loss of the season, dropping his record to 6-1.

Riverside's hopes dwindled with the loss but Forbis remained optimistic. "We're still in it," he said. "We're not going to back off until the season is over with."

The league race could well be placed on the line Tuesday when the Troop will visit Ysleta for a 4 p.m. game. But Pufal pointed out that every game is a key game. "In a tight race every game is a key game," he said. "There's a certain amount of rivalry among all the 2-AAAA schools. We're really looking forward to playing Ysleta. They've got a fine ball team."

The El Paso Diablos had a traditional celebration following their 4-3 victory over the Midland Cubs first-half title. In fact, they had three cases worth. Thirty-six bottles of champagne were waiting in the Diablo dugout for the 21 members of the team and were opened amid the usual chaos that accompanies a league championship.

The division title caps a highly successful first-half race for the Diablos which saw El Paso win its first eight games in April.

Diablo skipper Buck Rodgers didn't anticipate any problems for the team in the second-half of the season due to the fact they already had clinched a spot in the Western Division championship series, which begins Sept. 5.

"Baseball is a pride thing," he said. "All these guys have enough pride that they're gonna bust their tail to win."

"They're just going to have to play more relaxed for the rest of the season," he added. "Their biggest incentive is that they want to move up. They're super players and they've gotta move up."

"Winning is something you do and it becomes a habit. We're not satisfied with winning the first half. We're going to go out and win the second half."

A championship was something new for a couple of Diablos. "This is my first professional championship," said Gil Kubacki, who leads the league in hitting. "We were real close last year, though."

"It's not too often in the minors when you get to celebrate," he added, "because you've got to move around so much."

It was also Jim Dorsey's initial title. Dorsey, who also pitched the Diablos to their first win of the year, took the victory. "I knew when we broke out of spring training that we'd do it. Our team is really playing together."

Jim Paul, Diablo general manager who has always been an advocate of the split season, didn't relinquish his praise for the system. "It makes a shorter season, but a more exciting one," he commented. "I think people who were against it will now support it."

"They ought to do it in the majors. When I get to be commissioner of baseball," he laughed, "I'll do that."

Paul didn't expect a drop in attendance now that El Paso has clinched a spot in the playoffs. "I wouldn't anticipate a drop in attendance any more than I would expect a drop in attendance for the Portland Trailblazer's next season after winning the NBA title this year."

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

Burges Cops League Crown

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

Burges Coach Bob Osborne may or may not be a superstitious man, but following the Mustangs 1-0 victory over the Austin Panthers at Dudley Field Saturday he had a hard time uncrossing his fingers.

"We've lived behind an eight ball all season," the veteran coach said after the 18-10 Mustangs took the District 1-AAAA championship from the Panthers. "We had to give up the game we won against Coronado (because of an ineligible player).

"Then El Paso came and got us in the first round and Andress got us in the second round.

"Give a tremendous amount of credit to the kids. There were several times during the season when they could have quit, but they didn't."

The Mustangs must now face the District 2-AAAA champion Eastwood Troopers in a best-of-three series. The series has been tentatively set to start Tuesday at Dudley Field.

Sergio Baca scored the Mustang's only run, an unearned one, in the Burges half of the third inning. Moe Camilli, Austin moundsman, had trouble picking up Baca's bunted ball and Baca went to second on Kevin Crouch's sacrifice bunt. Tony Hernandez then knocked in Baca with a single to left field.

The game was a pitcher's dual, with the pitchers giving up a total of six hits. Diaz yielded two hits while Camilli allowed four.

But Diaz and his teammates did make things a little more interesting by allowing three walks and an error.

Rene Miranda was the only Panther to get past second base when, in the second inning, he reached second on a fielder's choice and an error on second baseman Baca's throw to first. Miranda then advanced to third on a passed ball by Sergio Cervantes. Diaz got to work by retiring the next two batters, one of them on strikes.

"Diaz is just a great competitor," Osborne said. "He and Sergio (catcher Cervantes) make a perfect duet."

But Diaz certainly couldn't have done the job right without the assistance of the team's defense. Second baseman Baca made a high leap for designated hitter Jim Fierro's hit in the first frame to right field which seemed to be a certain base hit.

Tom Sitton led the outfielders defensively. "Our outfielders deserve a lot of credit," said Panther Coach Leon Antwine. "Sitton made some great plays down the right field line." The biggest of Sitton's plays came when he made the grab on a fly ball behind first base to end the game.

After making the catch, the senior held the ball aloft and strutted into the arms of his ecstatic teammates.

To some Austin's close play may seem surprising since the Panthers had won only two of their previous seven games.

But Antwine was pleased with his team's showing.

"I am proud because they did every thing I asked," he said. "I only wish Camilli could go to bi-district. Bob Osborne may not agree, but he's the best in town."

Antwine attributed his team's nervousness to the fact that it was their first game of the season at Dudley. "I don't want to make excuses, but it was our first venture here. But we definitely came here to play today.

"You can't take a thing away from Diaz," he added. "We just didn't figure that one run would win it."

With the loss, the Panther's season ledger drops to 15-12-1, while their district mark goes to 8-6. The Panthers reached Saturday's championship by winning the first half title with a 6-1 slate.

Burges, which won the second half title by virtue of its 13-3 win over Andress on Thursday, improved its district record to 10-4.

Cox Powers Ranger Attack

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

Riverside's Mike Cox pitched a six-hit shutout against Ysleta, but the junior hurler also used his bat to spark the Rangers to a 6-0 win over the Indians at Ranger Field Saturday.

The Rangers got off to a fast start in the first inning when shortstop Kiki Beltran singled. His hit was followed up by Cox's one bagger. Beltran scored on the play and Cox reached second base as a result of an error by Tribe first baseman Neto Diaz. Vic Calzada, Riverside's catcher, batted Cox in with a single to give the Rangers a 2-0 lead.

Cox then turned his attention to pitching as he dealt well with trouble in the third inning, when Harvey Melendez tripled, and in the fourth inning, when Jerry Flores also came up with a triple. During the game, the Indians had six hits, but left five men on base.

The Rangers then exploded for four runs in the bottom of the fifth inning. Right fielder Norman Marestein opened the rally with a single and was brought in by Kiki Beltran's triple

Ralph Rangel got to first base off of an Indian error by shortstop Jerry Flores, which also brought Beltran home for another score. Cox then cushioned his lead with a two-run homer, giving him his third hit in as many times at bat.

The Tribe remained frustrated throughout the contest as it committed four errors and was unable to come up with the big hit.

"We hit the ball, but it always went to somebody," Indian Coach Dan Smith said. "But Cox pitched a very good game."

With the win, Riverside gets a good start in the District 2-AAAA race as the game was the Ranger's first conference contest. Ysleta drops to a 1-1 district slate.

In other District 2-AAAA action, Eastwood's pitching ace Lonnie Dugger tossed a three-hitter with nine strike outs as the Eastwood Troopers defeated the Bel Air Highlanders 7-2. Richard Bombard, Eastwood's second baseman, collected two hits in the contest, one of them a triple, and had two runs batted in.

Rangers Overcome Highlanders

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

For Joe Herrera, it was just another trip around the bases. For Riverside, it climaxed a six-run outburst in the second inning as the Rangers overwhelmed Bel Air 18-8 in a District 2-AAAA schoolboy baseball contest Thursday.

The three-run blast was Herrera's second homer in as many innings and scored Danny Martinez from third base and Mike Cox, who was at first, giving the Rangers their fifth run of the inning and a 9-0 advantage.

The District 1-AAAA contest heats up again Friday when the two league leading teams, the Irvin Rockets and the Andress Eagles square off at Rocket Field. Also, the Austin Panthers will visit the Coronado T-Birds, the Tigers of El Paso will entertain this Bowie Bears, and the Jefferson Silverfoxes will host the Burges Mustangs. All district game times will be 4 p.m.

The Highlander's starting pitcher, Glenn Franco was relieved by David Pinon following the shot over the left field fence by Herrera. Pinon got off to a shaky start by walking David Vasquez and throwing a wild pitch, advancing Vasquez to second. Vasquez then scored when shortstop Rudy Contreras had trouble making the throw to first base after Bernie Gonzalez' ground ball. The score increased the Ranger's lead to 10-0.

Bel Air's pitching staff continued to have its problems through the third inning by giving up 11 hits.

The Rangers added four more runs in the third stanza, three of which were unearned. Jilie Sausameda led things off by drawing a walk and reaching third on two of Pinon's wild pitches. Sausameda then reached home as a result of second baseman Ed Fattorini's throwing error to first base following Kiki Beltran's infield grounder.

Another pair of wild pitches sent Beltran to third and Danny Martinez knocked Beltran in with a single to left field. Martinez reached third on Cox's single and Fattorini threw wide to third on the play, sending Martinez home.

Cox then stole second base, and the pitching ace went to third when Herrera connected for his third consecutive base hit, a single to left field. Catcher

Vic Calzada later singled in Cox for the final run of the inning, giving Riverside a 14-0 edge.

But the Highlanders didn't quit. They came up with four clutch runs in the bottom of the third to pull them within 10 runs of Riverside. Frank Yzaguirre's in-the-park homer highlighted the inning by scoring Richard Franco and Roger Rojas, who had reached base with singles.

After failing to score in the fourth frame, Bel Air kept the game from being called as a result of the 10-run rule by scoring three runs in its half of the fifth inning, making the score 14-7. Rojas led off with a single up the middle. Yzaguirre again sparked the rally by scoring Rojas from first with a double. Yzaguirre then crossed home plate as a result of two passed balls by the catcher, Calzada.

Riverside got off to the quick start by scoring four runs in the first, with the primary hit being Herrera's two-run homer, his first shot over the left field fence.

"Riverside came ready to play" said Highlander Coach Bill Parsons. "We made a few errors but we've got to give them credit."

Mike Cox took the victory for Riverside, his seventh in eight decisions, and the Rangers stayed in third place in the district by improving their mark to 6-5-1.

"We played in spurts," commented Riverside Coach Ron Forbis. "We had innings when we played good ball, but we need to develop that killer instinct by the next round. We just let up.

"Consider, too, the dinky balls, like the shanks off the end of the bat, that you can't defend," he added. "But we showed determination to come back. That's the mark of a good club."

Jerry Shepard went six innings of no-hit pitching before giving up a single followed by a Dan Downing home run in the seventh inning, but the Ysleta Indians still came away with a 6-3 victory over the Parkland Matadors in other 2-AAAA baseball action.

Shepard took his second win in the contest in as many starts after recovering from a broken ankle.

Ysleta jumped to within 1½ games of the idle and league-leading Eastwood Troopers with the win. Their season record was improved to 12-11-1 while their district slate escalated to 7-5.

Irvin Tops Andress 4-3

By **JEFF JENKINS**
Times Sports Writer

Jerry Macias furnished the big hit and Robert Medina added the clutch defensive play to give Irvin the needed ingredients for a 4-3 District 1-AAAA schoolboy baseball victory over the Andress Eagles Friday at Irvin.

The Rockets remain atop the district standings along with the Burges Mustangs, who came from behind Friday to top the Jefferson Silverfoxes 7-4. The two teams have 4-0 records and will meet at Burges Field Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Macias led off the bottom of the eighth inning with his long hit that reached the left field fence for a double. Chuck Yancura sent Macias to third with his single to left and Yancura went to second on Mel Cutter's throw to third. Andress pitcher Sam Cordero intentionally walked Jim Lindsay to load the bases and went on to throw two more balls to David Garcia, before Eagle Coach Gerald Antwine called on Steve Weaver to finish the starting pitcher's dirty work.

Garcia then took ball three before hitting a hard grounder that second baseman Wally Cooper had trouble controlling. Cooper's throw reached home plate after Macias had already scored the winning run.

Andress had its chance to win the contest in the top of the seventh inning when Cooper led off with a single to left field. But Rocket catcher Norm Cristopher made a diving catch on Tom Carillo's attempted bunt for the first out of the inning. Cooper then moved to third on Fred Perales' single to left field. Garcia couldn't handle Yancura's throw to second on the play and Perales got to the base safely.

Rocket ace Lance Silva then loaded the bases by intentionally awarding designated hitter Ted Brown first base. Brown had previously hit Silva for two singles and a homer.

Mike Williams then grounded to Silva who threw home for the force out.

The two-out, bases-loaded situation set the stage for Medina's defensive gem. Mel Cutter hit a high bouncer that Medina had to charge, and, while off

balance, Medina threw a perfect strike to second for the force on Williams.

Cordero opened strongly for the Eagles by retiring four of five batters in the first. He then fanned eight of the next 11 Rocket hitters. But the hard throwing hurler weakened in the last five innings by giving up seven hits and three walks. He finished with 10 strike outs.

The Eagles jumped out to an early lead in the first frame when Fred Perales tripled after two outs and Brown singled him home for a 1-0 score.

Andress got another run in the second when Alan Eastman doubled to left field and Carillo knocked him in with a blooper to right.

Irvin got one of two runs back in the bottom of the fourth. Garcia drew a walk and went to second on Eastman's passed ball. Yancura then singled up the middle to make the score 2-1.

Brown made the score 3-1 with a blast over the left field fence in the top of the fifth, but Irvin's Medina followed up on the shot with another hit over the fence in the bottom of the fifth to bring the Rockets to within one run at 3-2.

Irvin tied the score in the sixth when Jim Lindsay was singled home from second by center fielder Mike Broussard.

"We've got momentum now," said Rocket Coach Bill Onick. "We're just playing real good ball. If any one player had to be singled out as to having a super game it would have to be Medina."

"Lance did a good job, too," he added. "He can really pitch."

The district's first half champion Austin Panthers lost their third consecutive game, 9-2 to Coronado in other 1-AAAA action Friday.

Bob Brookins was 3-4 at the plate for the T-Birds and Jose Melendez upped his pitching slate to 7-4 with the victory.

Bowie came from behind to nip the El Paso Tigers 8-7. Jose Polanco took the win for the Bears.

Saturday, the District 2-AAAA slate has the Ysleta Indians visiting the Bel Air Highlanders, while the Parkland Matadors will host the Eastwood Troopers. Both games begin at 10 a.m.

Highlanders Hit Indians Hard 14-4

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

Bel Air batters gave Ysleta pitchers fits Saturday as the Highlanders bombed the Indians 14-4 in a District 2-AAAA schoolboy baseball game at Bel Air.

The Highlanders exploded for five runs in the opening stanza when David Franco and Ed Fattorini connected for back-to-back homers. Franco's round tripper scored Richard Franco from third and Roger Rojas from second and cleared the bases for Fattorini's hit on hurler Sam Hernandez' first pitch.

Fattorini's four bagger was the second baseman's first-ever over-the-fence hit. "It's nice to see Ed get his first," commented Highlander Coach Bill Parsons.

The Eastwood Troopers moved one step closer to winning the District 2-AAAA title by downing the hapless Parkland Matadors 3-1.

Richard Bombard threw 12 strike outs, walked two batters, and gave up but 4 hits while taking his first win of the season for the Brigade.

Bombard pitched five innings of no hit ball before yielding two hits in the sixth and two hits in the seventh. "I'm elated with his performance," said Eastwood Coach Jim Pufal. "He's starting to come around."

Pufal refused to lay claim to the district crown prematurely. "We've got to take them one at a time," he said. "We've still a long ways to go."

The Troop's victory along with the Tribe's setback pushed Eastwood into a three game lead. The Brigade slate now stands at 16-8-1 on the season and 9-3-1 in district play.

The Indians scored three of their four runs in the top of the second stanza when Ronnie Perez doubled with the bases loaded. Roger Baeza scored from third, Manny Aranda from second, and Rick Rodriguez from first on the play.

Ricky Rodriguez led off the second with Bel Air's third home run, a shot over the left field fence, to

make the score 6-3.

The Indians got their final run in the top of the fourth when Highlander ace Frank Yzaguirre walked Perez and second baseman Johnny Cazares. Glenn Franco then came in to relieve Yzaguirre. Femath grounded to the shortstop Rudy Contreras who threw into left field while attempting to make the force on Cazares at second.

With the error, Perez scored and Bel Air's left fielder Richard Franco threw Cazares out at third. Femath reached second and then stole third, but Franco got down to work and fanned Neto Diaz before Roger Baeza flew to left.

The Highlanders upped their season record to 12-11-1 with the win and remained in fourth place with a district slate of 6-7.

Tuesday, both districts will see full action with the key game pitting the District 1-AAAA leaders Irvin and Burges. Gamesite will be Mustang Field at 4 p.m.

Andress will visit the first half winners Austin, Jefferson will meet the Bears at Bowie and Coronado will host El Paso.

2-AAAA action will see Bel Air making a trip to Eastwood, while Ysleta will entertain Riverside.

Gametimes will be 4 p.m.

Phoenix' James Strikes Out Lamar

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

Ronnie James wasn't at his best for the Phoenix Phoenicians during their 5-0 win over Lamar, Colo. in Saturday's second round play of the Southwest Softball Classic.

After all, the 22-year-old hurler only had 19 strikeouts.

"He's pitched better before," said Ron James, Ronnie's father and catcher. The 22-year veteran was speaking of his son's 20 strikeout performance played earlier in the year in Tucson. "But he did do real well today," added James, who is also father of Lewis James, who plays second base for the Phoenicians.

The 19-and-20-strikeout performances by James can be compared to the International Softball Congress tournament record of 20, set in 1968.

James recorded eight straight fannings before getting a routine groundout in the third frame.

He then continued on his pace with another seven consecutive strike outs through 5 1/3 innings, before falling victim to his first three base hits.

With one out in the sixth, Lamar's designated hitter Sonny

Montez broke the string with a bouncer between first and second base.

Gerald Bauer then hit to Lewis James who had trouble deciding on which base to throw to.

Brent Ward then bounced to the pitcher James, but when James turned to throw to first, there was no one covering the bag.

But James pitched his way out of the bases-loaded situation with a forceout at home and then picked up his 16th strike out with one inning yet to play.

Besides the young athlete's brilliant pitching performance, James also went three-for-four at the plate and scored what was to be the winning run that broke the scoreless tie in the fourth stanza.

When James has a hot pitching streak going, he claims that he doesn't even think about records. "I just go out and pitch my own ball game," he said. "Of course it helps when the catcher knows the batters because then the pitcher can just throw his own game."

Controversial and exciting described Saturday night's third game when Tulsa won the game that could well decide the tourney's

outcome, by nipping El Paso's All Sports Club 3-2.

Carlos Dominguez helped the All Sports jump out to an early lead in the opening stanza by doubling to the centerfield fence. Tulsa's Gary Ratcliff's throw to third got away from Dick Sellers, enabling Dominguez to score on the play.

The local team added another run to their tally in the second frame on Albert Gomez' RBI triple that scored Art Gomez from first.

Jack Tiger and Ratcliff combined for a double and a single to advance Wayne Crossly to third and then to score to bring Tulsa within a run.

Bob Combs opened the fifth with a double and then scored when Bill Fisher doubled.

The controversial play occurred in the top of the seventh when Fisher reached first on a fielder's choice and Dick Sellers singled to center. Frank Del Toro's throw home was high and wide, and hit a light pole above the back-stop screen. The ball then dropped down to the waiting hands of pitcher John Birkhead.

The officials ruled, however, that the ball was out of play and the

winning run was advanced home.

In other early action Saturday, Tulsa, paced by Jack Tiger's third inning, two run homer, defeated the Phoenicians 4-0.

El Paso's Van Ladder of Hawaii lost its second tourney game 10-0 to Schaefer-Smith of Phoenix, with errors leading to the defeat.

El Paso's Rick Baca hurled six innings of two-hit ball for Van Ladder of Hawaii but lost the contest in the final stanza to Tulsa 1-0 in a Saturday night game.

Wayne Crossy opened the seventh with a walk before powerful Jack Tiger connected for a triple to score Crossy.

David Del Toro smacked a fifth-inning two-run homer as El Paso's All Sports Club edged Schaefer-Smith 2-1 in a night game.

After yielding a first-inning homer and a second-inning single John Birkhead pitched six innings of no-hit ball to notch his second win of the tourney.

Dan Dilley hit a leadoff homer to open the game and Brent Ward scored in the initial inning when Geo Desko hit an RBI single to give Lamar, Colo. a 2-1 triumph over surprisingly hapless Schaefer-Smith.

SOFTBALL

All-Sports Softball Team Seizes Tourney Victory

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

David Del Toro supplied the batting power and John Birkhead added the superb pitching for the All-Sports Club en route to a 3-1 victory over the Phoenix Phoenicians Thursday night at the Southwest Softball Classic at Memorial Park.

Birkhead pitched a four-hitter for the All-Sports to notch the win, but Del Toro hit what was to be the game winning two-run homer in the fifth inning with a long blast over the centerfield fence.

The All-Sports jumped to an early first inning lead when Pat Wilson's single was followed by Frank Del Toro's triple.

"It was just a defensive battle," said All-Sports manager Al Armendariz. "Birkhead was tough in the clutch, but Del Toro was the one who won the game with the home run.

"Manny Olivas made some good catches in right field," he added. "He robbed them of two sure base hits."

Although Ronnie Eugene James took the loss for the Phoenicians, the 22 year-old pitcher hurled a fine six-hitter.

"I've been having trouble," he spoke of his pitching, "but I think it was a great game."

In the opening game of the four-night tournament, El Paso's Van Ladder of Hawaii had problems defensively in the eighth inning, falling to Lamar, Colo. 14-7.

Van Ladder committed three errors in the extra inning allowing their opponents to break a 7-7 tie.

Lamar started the tourney off with a three run burst in the initial inning when Greg King shot a three-run homer over the scoreboard in centerfield with Joe Morenz and Geo Dasko on base.

Van Ladder came back in the bottom half of the inning when Ed Pushes and Milton Godwin each singled. El Paso High football coach Willie Vasquez then hit a double off

the left field fence to close the score at 3-2.

Van Ladder Pitcher Don Milner gave up a single and a walk while hitting Brent Ward with a pitch in the second inning. Dasko then drew a walk, allowing righthfielder Dan Dilley to score from third base, upping its lead to 4-2.

Frank Wilkens and Lefty Lopez opened the bottom half of the inning with singles and Rick Baca laid down a sacrifice bunt to advance both runners. John Greggerson then picked up an RBI with a single that scored Wilkens and Rick Butler singled to score Baca and Greggerson, making the tally 5-4 in favor of Van Ladder.

Van Ladder added another run in the fifth when Rick Butler tripled and scored on a Sonny Montez illegal pitch. Lamar tied the tally in the sixth when Dasko sent the softball over the right-centerfield fence.

Lamar regained the lead in the seventh when Ray Fisher doubled, advanced on Dilley's sacrifice fly to left and scored on an error committed by first baseman Frank Wilkens.

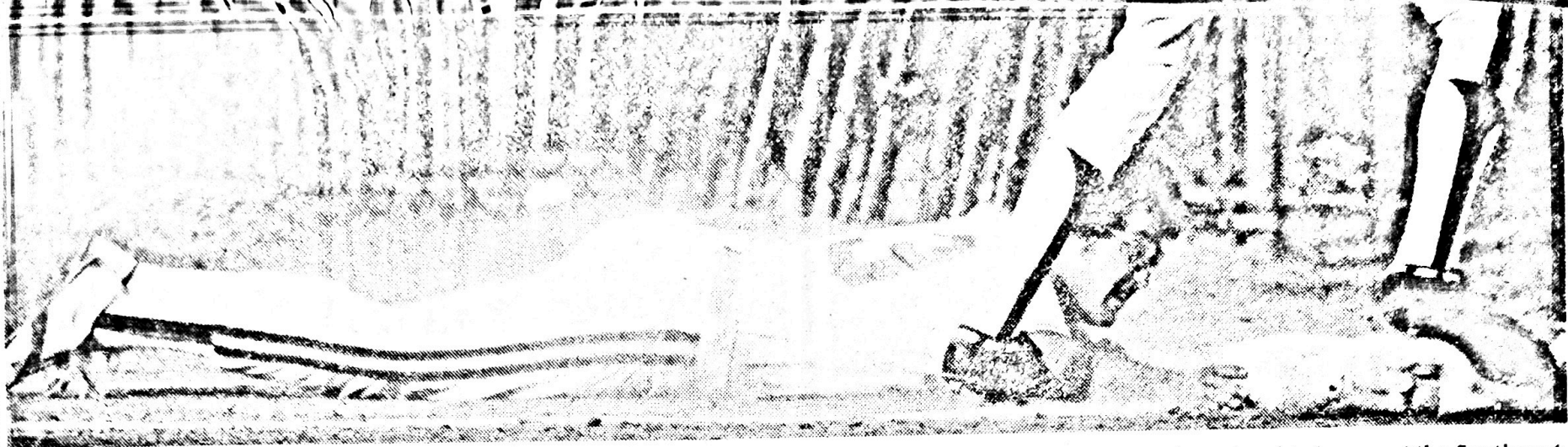
But they didn't hold the lead for long as Butler blasted over the left field fence for the fourth home run of the game, sending the contest into extra innings.

Late action saw Beeline Tulsa, led by Wayne Crosswy's and Bill Router's homers, down tourney favorit Schaeffer-Smith 4-2, with Lamar and the All-Sports Club yet to play.

Roger Ogle grabbed the win from the mound for Tulsa and Terry Stapley took the loss.

Friday night, the Phoenicians will battle Tulsa at 6 p.m., Schaefer-Smith will play Van Ladder of Hawaii at 7:15. The Phoenicians will compete again, this time against Lamar at 8:30 and the All-Sports Club will go up against Schaefer-Smith in the nightcap at 9:45.

See Print-Out For Linescores



TRAFFIC JAM — Greg King of Lamar, Colo. slides back into third base after taking a wide turn Sunday night, but the base was already occupied by King's teammate. Gerald Bauer, who was advancing to third on the same play. King, since he was the lead runner, was ruled out on the play. Lamar lost the contest by a 6-1 margin to Tulsa's Beeline Furniture Co. and

the Oklahomans went on to capture championship honors at the Southwest Softball Classic. The prestigious tournament concluded its four-day run at Memorial Park Sunday.

—(Times staff photo by Lamberto Alvarez)

Tulsa Convincing In Softball Championship

By **JEFF JENKINS**
Times Sports Writer

Tulsa left little doubt Sunday as to which team would win the 18th annual Southwest Softball Classic.

The team sponsored by Beeline Furniture Co. smashed four home runs in a four inning span to down Lamar, Colo. 6-1 and grab the tournament's championship trophy.

John Sellers followed up on Bill Fisher's single with a long blast over the Memorial Park Scoreboard for Tulsa's first homer in the third stanza.

Fisher came back in the fifth with a solo homer that also glided over the centerfield fence.

After two outs in the sixth, Tulsa bombed pitcher Russ Abeita for three consecutive and crucial hits. Catcher

Jack Tiger collected a single before Gary Ratcliff and Jim Smittle combined for back-to-back home runs, bringing the tally to its final outcome, 6-1.

Tiger, who batted for a .461 average in the tournament, was pleased with his hitting. "I was real fortunate the way the ball dropped in on my hits."

"The pitching was some of the best I've seen," he continued. "I just went up and hit the ball as best I could."

Lamar's only scoring came in the fourth frame when Geo Dasko's triple was followed up by Sonny Montez' line drive RBI fly out to left field.

Tub Girdner pitched a brilliant contest for Tulsa, adding 10 strike outs to his five hit performance.

Lamar pitchers Russ Abeita and Sunny Montez, who entered the game

in the sixth inning, were unable to keep the ball on the ground. Tulsa hit into only five ground balls. They flew out 16 times, 11 of which made the outfield.

Tulsa also collected nine base hits, five going for extra bases.

Tulsa actually won the classic on a controversial call in the seventh inning of Saturday night's contest with El Paso's All Sports Club. Centerfielder Frank Del Toro's throw home after Dick Seller's single, went high and wide of his mark, hitting a light pole above the back-stop, and dropping to John Birkhead.

But the umpire ruled that the ball was out of play since it had hit above the backstop. As a result, Bill Fisher, who represented the winning run, was

allowed to advance home from third base. Tulsa won the contest 3-2.

Following Sunday's game which clinched the title for the Oklahomans, shortstop John Sellers expressed his thanks, not to the umpire of the previous night's contest, but to all El Pasoans.

"This is the best tournament we've played in," he said. "The people running the tournament are the nicest, and we want to thank the crowds for showing up.

"I would like to come back next year," he added. "I'm sure we'll work something out so that we can."

Lamar needn't be discontent with the loss to Tulsa, because it was awarded the trophy for "best dressed team" following the game.

'Runners Lack Power, Defend Title

By **JEFF JENKINS**

Times Sports Writer

The Albuquerque Roadrunners didn't have much power in their 9-1 victory over El Paso's Van Ladder of Hawaii Sunday. But come to think of it, they didn't need any to successfully defend their International Softball Congress Regional Championship at Memorial Park.

The Roadrunners banged out 14 hits, 12 of which were singles; two were doubles.

With Van Ladder leading through three innings, the Roadrunners began their single spree. Stosh Padilla led the inning off with a bunt single and then advanced to second on Mike McClure's sacrifice bunt.

Jim Poppan then singled to left field to score Padilla, before Dale Ripley and John Baillio singled to load the bases.

Steve Mims then followed up on designated hitter Bobby Byrd's single with a double off the left field fen-

cebringing the score to 4-0 in favor of the Roadrunners.

The Roadrunners were then sent on another single binge in the fifth stanza when Mike McClure, Jim Poppan and Dale Ripley gathered consecutive singles to fill the bases for the second straight frame.

Relief pitcher Sergio Luna then walked home the Roadrunners first run of the inning.

Albuquerque got four more though. Byrd reached first when his dribbler bounced off of first baseman Frank Wilkens shin, then Mims sacrificed to left field and Rik Goodloe drilled a single to right.

Van Ladder's lone run was scored by John Greggerson in the third inning when his bunt single was followed by Milt Godwin's sacrifice bunt. Lefthander Lefty Gomez then singled to score Greggerson.

Van Ladder reached the title game by first defeating Carlsbad 6-1 Sunday to

place them in the championship contest of the loser's bracket against the local talent of Carmona & Company.

That contest turned into a homerun derby in the latter stages.

With Carmona leading 2-1, Van Ladder's Lopez and Don Milner picked up back-to-back home run blasts to begin the sixth frame before Gary Zeller followed up on Frank Wilkens single to make the tally 5-2 in favor of Van Ladder. Zeller had previously homered in the fifth.

But Carmona returned the favor in the seventh when Dave Nance, Keith Rushing and Willie Dixon combined for back-to-back home runs to send the contest into extra innings.

Zeller, a former guard for the Baltimore Bullets of the NBA, then returned to his hero role in the eighth inning by hitting the eventual game-winning double that scored Wilkens from second base.

Seizes 'Tourney' Victory

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

David Del Toro supplied the batting power and John Birkhead added the superb pitching for the All-Sports Club en route to a 3-1 victory over the Phoenix Phoenicians Thursday night at the Southwest Softball Classic at Memorial Park.

Birkhead pitched a four-hitter for the All-Sports to notch the win, but Del Toro hit what was to be the game winning two-run homer in the fifth inning with a long blast over the centerfield fence.

The All-Sports jumped to an early first inning lead when Pat Wilson's single was followed by Frank Del Toro's triple.

"It was just a defensive battle," said All-Sports manager Al Armentariz. "Birkhead was tough in the clutch, but Del Toro was the one who won the game with the home run.

"Manny Olivas made some good catches in right field," he added. "He robbed them of two sure base hits."

Although Ronnie Eugene James took the loss for the Phoenicians, the 22 year-old pitcher hurled a fine six-hitter.

"I've been having trouble," he spoke of his pitching, "but I think it was a great game."

In the opening game of the four-night tournament, El Paso's Van Ladder of Hawaii had problems defensively in the eighth inning, falling to Lamar, Colo. 14-7.

Van Ladder committed three errors in the extra inning allowing their opponents to break a 7-7 tie.

Lamar started the tourney off with a three run burst in the initial inning when Greg King shot a three-run homer over the scoreboard in center-field with Joe Morenz and Geo Dasko on base.

Van Ladder came back in the bottom half of the inning when Ed Pushes and Milton Godwin each singled. El Paso High football coach Willie Vasquez then hit a double off

the left field fence to close the score at 3-2.

Van Ladder Pitcher Don Milner gave up a single and a walk while hitting Brent Ward with a pitch in the second inning. Dasko then drew a walk, allowing righthfielder Dan Dilley to score from third base, upping its lead to 4-2.

Frank Wilkens and Lefty Lopez opened the bottom half of the inning with singles and Rick Baca laid down a sacrifice bunt to advance both runners. John Greggerson then picked up an RBI with a single that scored Wilkens and Rick Butler singled to score Baca and Gregger-son, making the tally 5-4 in favor of Van Ladder.

Van Ladder added another run in the fifth when Rick Butler tripled and scored on a Sonny Montez illegal pitch. Lamar tied the tally in the sixth when Dasko sent the softball over the right-centerfield fence.

Lamar regained the lead in the seventh when Ray Fisher doubled, advanced on Dilley's sacrifice fly to left and scored on an error committed by first baseman Frank Wilkens.

But they didn't hold the lead for long as Butler blasted over the left field fence for the fourth home run of the game, sending the contest into extra innings.

Late action saw Beeline Tulsa, led by Wayne Crosswy's and Bill Router's homers, down tourney favorit Schaeffer-Smith 4-2, with Lamar and the All-Sports Club yet to play.

Roger Ogle grabbed the win from the mound for Tulsa and Terry Stapley took the loss.

Friday night, the Phoenicians will battle Tulsa at 6 p.m., Schaefer-Smith will play Van Ladder of Hawaii at 7:15. The Phoenicians will compete again, this time against-Lamar at 8:30 and the All-Sports Club will go up against Schaefer-Smith in the night-cap at 9:45.

See Print-Out For Linescores

BASKETBALL

Klotz Does Fine Job Losing To 'Trotters

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

Louis "Red Klot Has a terrible habit of losing, but the red-haired mentor of the New Jersey Reds has no choice but to take it in stride.

By his own admission, Klotz is the "losingest coach in the world." That fact is perfectly understandable since the Reds are the traveling opponents of the winningest team — the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters.

As expected, Klotz' public image didn't change a great deal Thursday night when the Reds, as so many times before, fell to the Globetrotters 111-101 before an estimated crowd of 10,500 at the Special Events Center.

After his success with the NBA champion Baltimore Bullets in 1947-48, among other championship teams, Klotz now is recognized for coaching a loser. "People know me more as a losing coach against the Globetrotters than they do as a winning player with the Bullets," Klotz said.

Coaching a team that has defeated the Globetrotters but once in Klotz' 26 years with the Reds may not seem too glamorous a job, but beating the Globetrotters presents just as many problems. "The home crowd (when they did defeat the 'Trotters) didn't appreciate us beating the team they love," Klotz said. "They actually booed us for winning.

"We go out to play good basketball and we try to limit our mistakes. If you work with yourself and concentrate on improving yourself, winning or losing doesn't mean a damn thing. "We have to gain audiences' respect while the Globetrotters are already world famous.

"There's only one champion in baseball, basketball, football and golf. There's only one champion in

any sport. The only champions in this sport would have to be the Boston Celtics. They've got the best record in NBA history, and the fans are booing them this year because of their first losing season."

During Thursday's contest, The Globetrotters didn't fall short of their usual thrilling performance. From the beginning of their act, with the famous center-court warm-up circle, to the end when hundreds of youngsters piled onto the court seeking autographs, the Globetrotters kept the near-capacity crowd entertained.

And according to Meadowlark Lemon, that's what it's all for. "We try to center the show for everybody in the stands. It's still important for us to win. I don't know of anybody who likes a loser," he said.

Welcomed by cities all over the world, the Globetrotters find that the pressure isn't easy to handle. "It's difficult to play seven nights a week," Curly Neal said, "and we have to be good seven nights a week. That's a lot of pressure.

"Plus, we've been traveling all day. We didn't get here until four o'clock.

"When we play we have to have an 8-to-10-point lead to feel comfortable to do what we do best."

The Harlem Globetrotter's entertainment act doesn't consist of just the two basketball teams. In addition to the 'Trotter's act and the two referee's, Andy Johnson and Riley Pitkoff, who take part in the clowning, a couple of separate acts keep the audience busy before the game and during intermission.

The Wazzan family, with Antar Jr., Omar and Alissa entertained the crowd with unique acrobatic and trampoline acts and Lilly Yokoi's bicycle stunts impressed those in attendance.

Troopers Trim Deer Park

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

Terry White may have pumped in 26 points during Eastwood's 54-52 victory over Houston Deer Park Thursday but Rick Becerra emerged as the Trooper's hero following a pressure-packed field goal with four seconds remaining in the first round of the Sun Carnival High School Basketball Tournament at Eastwood gym.

The 6-3 senior guard's clutch shot came following a missed free throw by White with seven seconds left. White soared high for his own rebound, missed the six-foot follow-up shot before Becerra grabbed the ball off the boards and dropped in the winning goal.

"We'd been trying to work the ball in to him (Becerra)," said Troop coach Bob Lesley. "He finally got a shot and he handled it well."

The Deer boasted a 51-46 lead, the largest of the game, with four minutes left but White led the Troopers on a brief four-point surge with a layup and then intercepted a Deer Park pass to set up Becerra's 20-foot jumper from the left corner, closing the gap to 51-50 with 3:20 left.

The two teams continued the turnover spree when White stole the ball

again, but a theft by Tom Fuller returned the ball to the Deer. The ball then changed hands again, this time with Eastwood's Mike Putney and Deer Park's Fuller doing the dirty work.

Following the latter steal, Fuller threw the length of the court to David Simmons who was fouled on the layup attempt. The 6-2 guard connected on the first of two attempts, with 2:06 remaining the Deer's final point of the game.

Becerra scored Eastwood's final six points of the contest, two free throws with 1:26 remaining in addition to the 20-footer with 3:20 left and his game-winning goal.

White, easily the game's scoring leader, made 22 of his points before the fourth quarter. His 14 second-quarter points kept Eastwood above water, as the Troop had some trouble with the Deer's full-court press. Eastwood managed to stay in the game though, as the Deer took but a 32-30 lead to the locker room at halftime.

The Deer were forced into a predicament when, with 7:48 left, leading scorer Robert Shaw was forced to sit on the bench following his fifth foul.

While Shaw was out of the game,

Deer Park was called for two traveling violations, both within the first 1½ minutes of the final quarter. "We caused the momentum to change rather than they did," said a dejected coach Ray Landers. "We had everything going for us, a five-point minutes to go.

"We just got careless in the last two minutes. We made some bad mistakes."

Both teams shot well from the field, Deer Park connecting on 46 percent and Eastwood on 43. Free throws plagued both clubs as Deer Park, who's record dropped to 8-3, made 10 of 20 charity shots and the Troopers, who improved their slate to 9-2, were successful on six of 16.

Austin Could Be Contender

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

Even though the Andress eagles are coming off an undefeated District 1-AAAA mark, the Austin Panthers, with ample experience, figure to be the team to beat in the district's 1977-78 girls' high school basketball campaign.

The district outlook:

AUSTIN — The Panthers return three starters on a team that finished the 1976-77 season with an overall mark of 11-15 and a district record of 6-8. Barbara Holguin, a 5-2 junior, 5-5 senior-forward Carmen Olivas and 5-4 forward Irma Ronquillo will lead coach Adele Cloud's experienced forces.

Austin lacks starting experience at guard but returns four players who have playing experience at the key position.

The Panthers will have to depend on Darlene Bazarri and Lisa Pizarro, 5-8 and 5-9 juniors, respectively, for rebounding purposes on the basically short squad.

With speed and varsity experience, the Panthers should definitely contend for the district crown.

ANDRESS — The Eagles will be led by senior and all-district forward-guard Cindy Luna. The 6-0 two-year letterman will pace the defending District 1-AAAA Eagles, who finished district play last season at 14-0 and 23-4 overall.

Andress will also return three-year letterman Patricia Mitchell, a 5-4 senior forward-guard, and Lorelie Calnan. Calnan, a 5-10 senior forward-guard has three years experience and two varsity letters.

The Eagles return only one other player with varsity experience — 5-6 junior guard Luan Ferraro. But despite this lack of depth, Andress' positive playing attitude will be a sure asset.

BURGES — Quickness and some experience are the Mustangs' strong points for the coming season.

Senior forward Anna McMurtrie (5-7), returning from all-district honors, may give Burges a boost in the coming prep year. Senior forward Cheri Kirk will return with two years experience in addition to eight returning seniors who have one year experience . . . Other players to watch for on the team which finished 13-15 overall last season and 6-8 in district are 5-7 forward Patsy Ochoa and 5-3 guard Norma Chavez.

CORONADO — The Thunderbirds, coming off an impressive 16-12 record and 9-5 in district play, return nine players with two-or-more years experience.

Returning seniors who are likely to get the most playing time are 5-6 forward Stephanie McAlpine, 5-3 guard Teri Haney, 5-1 guard Veronica Ramos, 5-4 forward Isela Garcia and 5-6 guard Marila Castellanos . . . Along with these senior returnees, six juniors, all with playing experience, will lead the T-Birds effort.

JEFFERSON — The Silver Foxes return four girls from last year's squad, a team that finished 10-17 on the year and 5-9 in conference competition. Guards Margie Galvan, a 5-7 junior and Grace Villalva, a 5-4 senior, will call the plays for the inexperienced squad . . . The forwards returning are Veronica Loya (5-7 senior) and 5-3 senior forward Patricia Villa.

EL PASO — Last year's Tiger squad was quick, tall and experienced and finished 17-11 while closing with a 10-4 mark in district.

El Paso will have to rebuild following graduation, but last year's members of the all-district team, senior Estella Tarin and junior Anita Solis, are a good place to start.

IRVIN — The Rockets will be an experienced group to deal with. But experience isn't Lisa Morris' only asset. The 5-4 junior forward is rich in talent. With two years experience and two years as a member of the all-district squad, Morris will lead a team that has five players with at least five years of experience.

Morris will be helped by 5-8 senior Teresa Santos and 5-5 guard Martha Mendoza as the Rockets attempt to improve last season's 10-17 overall mark and 5-9 district slate.

BOWIE — Lack of experience and height is the major hindrance the Bears must face. Bowie returns only three girls from last year's squad which finished 5-21 and 0-14 in district play. Returning are 5-6 forward-guard Shirley Herrada, 5-1 senior guard Lidia Ruiz and 5-3 senior forward Leticia Media.

The Bears will bring up three players with B-team experience in Irma Luevano (5-3), Sylvia Loya (5-4) and Noemi Carrasco (5-3).

Troop Girls Loop Choice

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

Shooting talent and experience at key starting positions make the Eastwood Troopers the favorite to defend their District 2-AAAA girls' prep roundball title for the 1977-78 season.

The district outlook:

EASTWOOD — The Troopers return three all-district players from last year's squad which finished season competition with a 21-5 record and the district race with a 7-1 mark.

Junior Denise Gallegos, 5-9 junior Debbie Guerra and 5-6 senior Kim Hicks, all returning all-district players, will make the Troop a team to reckon with. Eastwood also will have a 5-7 senior guard Donice Benford, 5-2 junior forward-guard Monica Divis, 5-5 junior forward-guard Vicki Fields and 5-5 senior guard Gretta Griffin returning to give the Troopers a well-rounded squad.

PARKLAND — Junior Gwen McCray, a 5-7 forward-guard, returns from her all-district season hoping to make the Matadors a district contender. Olivia Dupey, 5-4 senior guard, will give Parkland added experience as she is returning for her fourth year.

Ana Contreras, a 5-5 guard, Kim Layne, a 5-0 forward-guard, 5-4 forward-guard Fudge Maxwell and 5-4 guard Maria Molina will try to help Parkland improve on its 21-5 overall mark and 6-2 conference record of last year.

BEL AIR — Speed is the Highlander's strongest point for the coming year with the return of five juniors — 5-2 guard Cindy Garcia, 5-3 forward Teresa Garcia, 5-4 guard Lupe Lucero, 5-2 guard Cindy Marrufo and 5-1 forward Patricia Ortiz — all of whom will attempt to raise Bel Air's 7-14 overall mark and 3-5 district record of last year.

Seniors Patricia Beltran (5-4 guard and all-district returnee), Patricia Carter (5-4 forward) and Maria Fatterina (5-8 guard) will give the Highlanders their only experience despite the return of the five juniors, since Ortiz is the only non-senior with any playing experience.

RIVERSIDE — Strong shooting may help the Riverside Rangers improve last year's 15-8 overall mark and 4-4 record in district, but first, the Rangers must overcome a lack of height.

The Rangers will see three players with two-year experience guide Riverside through the coming season. Vickie De La Cruz, a 5-5 senior forward, Nena Garcia, a 5-8 senior guard, Josie Quarioz, a 5-5 junior forward, give the Rangers the talent for a successful season.

YSLETA — Playing with a definite height disadvantage, the Indians must rely on their speed and strong defense to compensate and build from last year's team that finished 3-17 on the year and 0-8 in district play.

Seniors Becky Perez, a 5-5 senior forward, returning with all-district honors, Betsy Forti, a 5-6 senior guard and Tammy Saathoff, a 5-3 senior guard will give the Indians needed experience.

GOLF

Takes Sectional Lead

Torres Masters Course

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

While opening-day leader Bob Meiering's game went afoul during Tuesday's second round of the Sun Country PGA Sectional golf tournament at Vista Hills, Gene Torres took a journey of the "fowlest" degree, carded a 3-under-par 69 and flew into a two-stroke second-round lead.

Defending champion Woody Dame took over second place by carding a 70-144. Albuquerque's Don Klein was four back at 146.

The three-day tourney to determine the section's representative in the national PGA classic later this summer, will conclude Wednesday.

Torres carded an eagle, two birdies and had a close encounter of the third kind with two geese at the 17th green.

Meanwhile, Meiering did an excellent job of scrambling on the front nine for a 1-over 37, but wasn't so successful on the back side where he ballooned to a 7-over 43-80.

Torres tallied routine pars at one and two before hitting his third shot to within two feet at the 574-yard par-5 third hole.

At number six, he dropped a 15-foot downhill putt for his second birdie after hitting a remarkable approach shot on the 419-yard par-4 hole.

But his most impressive feat came at the 535-yard par-5 15th hole, where, after he hit hole-high on his second shot, sank the remaining 18-foot putt

for an eagle-three.

"I hit a 2-iron well," he said, "and that was my best putt of the tournament.

"I was hitting the ball a little better today than the last couple of days," he added.

Meiering, playing in the last group with Torres, managed to one-putt six greens, saving par on each one. While his putter remained hot on the closing nine, he still could do no better than 43.

"This has got to be the worst competitive round I've ever played," Meiering said. "I didn't have very many putts. It's amazing to putt well and still shoot 80. In fact, it really scares me.

"Right now, I'm going to go hit some balls and get a swing. I just didn't feel good about my swing."

Things could have been worse for Meiering. On five holes he flirted with out-of-bounds.

At the 489-yard 17th hole, two geese stalked the green in between Torres and the hole. Torres, after waving the geese back to the lake that guards the green, chipped across the green, with the ball lipping out.

However, Torres' heroics had not concluded. At 18, a 557-yard par-5, his tee shot found the first bunker on the left of the fairway resting against the lip. Torres could do no better than to hit a short iron back into the fairway.

At that point, Torres ran into some confusion as to how far he was from the pin. After asking Meiering where the 150-yard marker was, Meiering hit short into another bunker. But a brilliant sand shot to two feet from the hole saved par.

"I was going to try and get home in two," he said, "but the ball was against the lip of the trap. And the marker didn't look like it was 150."

Torres, Dame and Klein are paired together for Wednesday's final round. They're scheduled to tee off at 9:16 a.m.

Dame Finishes Second

Torres Wins Sectional

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

As Woody Dame discovered Wednesday, playing cat and mouse games can sometimes backfire.

Just as it appeared he had trapped leader Gene Torres of Las Vegas, N.M., Torres stole the bait and ran away with the Sun Country PGA Sectional Title at Vista Hills Country Club.

Dame managed to jump into a share of the lead on several different occasions, but the defending champion from Farmington could never quite grasp sole possession.

After a shaky front nine, Torres played the back side at 1-under-par 35 for a day's work of par 72, good enough for the \$1,000 first prize by three shots.

Jim Fiala and Don Klein, who at several times during the day appeared to be making a run for the money, finished four and five shots back respectively. Tom Nielsen was tied with Klein at 219.

Torres did what every tournament leader dreams of doing: play the final two holes at 2-under.

"Finishing birdie-birdie is tough," said Dame of Torres' play. "I figured that if I finished birdie-birdie I could have forced at least a playoff. He kinda turned it around on me, didn't he."

In unbelievable style, Torres dropped a 30-foot putt at 17, that, when coupled with Dame's bogey at the 16th, gave him a commanding two-shot lead going into the closing hole.

"I had a blase kind of round," said Torres after posting his three-day total of 214. "That putt (17th green) felt so good. It was the first exciting thing that happened to me all day."

Except for that birdie putt and an additional one of seven feet at the 409-yard par-4 13th hole, Torres had problems on the greens.

"I just had to be patient all day," he said, "especially after missing those four-footers." Torres was referring to short misses for pars on numbers five and 14.

"I'm thrilled to win this tournament," he added.

"I really feel that this is one of the strongest sections in the country."

From the start, it appeared Dame wasn't about to let anyone take his crown away, as he caught Torres with two birdies on the opening three holes.

On the first hole, a 570-yard par-5, Dame's second shot stopped 12 feet from the hole. He settled for birdie when his eagle putt missed by inches.

At the 574-yard par-5 third hole, he hit his chip shot for eagle close enough for a routine tap-in birdie.

Dame fell a stroke behind when he three-putted for a bogey four at number eight. But Torres also lost a stroke to par at number 12, where he missed the green and wasn't able to get down in two.

Torres then regained the lead with the birdie at 13, but went back into a tie with a four at 14.

At number 15, a 535-yard par-5 and probably the most critical hole of the tournament, it appeared Dame was on the brink of forcing a two-stroke swing. After Torres had hit his second shot into a bunker, Dame laid up before hitting his third shot seven feet from the pin.

Torres then left the ball in the bunker, and it appeared that he might bogey while Dame was looking at birdie. But Torres blasted his fourth shot a foot away and Dame's putt went wide.

On the same hole, Klein, trailing Dame and Torres by two shots, had a chance to pick up another stroke and get into the thick of things, but his four-foot birdie putt lipped out.

Klein had previously given the leaders quite a scare by carding a 2-under-par 34 on the front nine, placing him one-shot behind. But three bogeys on the back nine with no compensation, proved to be his downfall.

From his tee shot to his tap-in for birdie, it was obvious Torres wasn't about to choke his lead away on 18. He stopped pin-high on the 557-yard par-5 hole in two shots, where he easily two-putted for the victory.

Paso Golf Pros Pick Jack Nicklaus To T

By JEFF JENKINS
Times Sports Writer

's Southern Hills Country Club is the the 1977 U.S. Open, and, according to a us of El Paso golf pros polled Wed- Jack Nicklaus will win the major golf

f seven professionals, three picked the n Bear," who has won the Open three hile finishing in the runner-up position three.

rough is so deep and Nicklaus is so " said Coronado Country Club

assistant pro Steve Cranford. "I figure it will take an over par score to win.

"I wouldn't be surprised if Lee Trevino played well too, and if Crenshaw gets to hitting well off the tee, he should finish right up there."

Jim Malott, head pro at Vista Hills Country Club, agreed. "It's kind of hard to go against Nicklaus," he said. I'll pick even par as the winning score, maybe one under.

"Dave Stockton has played well there — he won the PGA there and of course Al Geiberger has been playing well too."

"I don't see how you can bet against the Bear," Bill Peterson, Santa Teresa assistant pro said.

"As my darkhorse, I'd have to go with Trevino. He's been playing well, and he had a good closing round last week. Before that he was getting tired on the last day. I look for Tom Watson, Gary Player, and Chi Chi Rodriguez to finish high also."

El Paso Country Club pro Bill Eschenbrenner went with darkhorse Tom Weiskopf, who is gradually pulling out of a two-year slump. "The win he had last week might give

THE EL PASO TIMES, Thursday, June 13, 1977

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Page 5-D

ake U.S. Open Crown

Weiskopf the edge.

"I'd have to give Trevino and Player equal chances. They both have been getting better every week.

"I personally feel that Ben Crenshaw will wrap it up," was Ascarate Golf pro Charlie Birk's contribution. "He's been real close in the past two years and he's been putting pretty good. He's always in the top two or three in the big tournaments.

"Trevino might stick his toes in the door, too. He's been hitting the ball pretty good and the tournament might be one of his golas this

year."

Lee Olson of Dos Lagos took longshot Graham Marsh. "He's had a greater variety of experience than any playing the American tour.

"He's played all over the world on courses that are tough and are groomed for championship play."

"It's a shot in the breeze," said Bill Richards, club pro at Horizon City Country Club. "I'd have to go with Dave Stockton. He's won the PGA there. Of course, you can't count Nicklaus out."

Torres Second In PGA Play

Meiering Holds 1-Shot Lead

By JEFF JENKINS

Times Sports Writer

Albuquerque's Bob Meiering used a stiff breeze to his advantage and jumped to a 1-shot opening-round lead over Gene Torres in the Sun Country PGA Sectional Championship Monday at Vista Hills Country Club.

Meiering, Torres and Roswell's Robert Atkins will be the final group to tee off in Tuesday's second round. The threesome is scheduled to begin play at 9:56 a.m.

With the wind at his back for the opening three holes, the Aroyo De Oso golf professional fired three consecutive birdies and made the turn at 3-under-par 33. A double-bogey six at the 12th hole hurt Meiering on the final nine holes as he finished at even-par 72.

"The key to this game is getting off to a good start," said Meiering following his round. "The wind really helped on the first three holes."

Torres, the 1977 sectional runner-up from Las Vegas, N.M., kept pace with Meiering with a 37-36-73.

Meiering started the tourney by reaching the par-5 570-yard opening hole in two, where he could afford to two-putt for his

first birdie. On the third hole, a 574-yard par-5, he sat two in a sand bunker and got up and down in two.

In all, Meiering one-putted six greens for five birdies. Two bogeys and the double-bogey on the back side brought him back to even-par for the round.

The six he recorded on the 456-yard par-4 was the result of an out-of-bounds tee shot.

"You tell yourself, keep your cool," he said. "You have to realize you're going to have some bad holes."

Woody Dame of Farmington, N.M. couldn't agree with Meiering more. The defending champion of the tournament hooked two tee shots out-of-bounds on the par-5 10th hole and had to settle for a triple-bogey eight en route to a 36-38-74.

But Dame doesn't feel that the eight kept him from the opening-round lead. "Sure, if you take that (triple-bogey) out," he said, "but believe that the breaks even themselves out. That's what makes golf so interesting."

Dame still managed to play the final eight holes at 1-under par by sinking a 20-foot birdie putt at the 12th green.

"I'm very pleased with where I am," he

said. "With the two OB's, I'm in good position."

"Torres and Meiering are the ones to watch," he added.

Dame's 74 vaulted him into a six-way tie for third place with Atkins (39-35), Albuquerque's Joe McDermott (39-35), Roswell's Jerry Elwell (37-37) and El Pasoans Danny Swain (38-36) and Bill Gutknetcht (37-37).

Jim Fiala of Belen, N.M. and Jim Dickson followed with 75 and 76, respectively.

Dickson, playing with Dame and Albuquerque's Tom Nielsen, ran into problems at the 17th hole where the Artesia pro pulled his drive to the left. After the threesome and gallery searched for more than five minutes, Dickson was forced to return to take a two-shot penalty for a lost ball and hit again from the tee. He settled for a triple-bogey seven on the 489-yard hole.

Even with the disastrous 17th, Dickson's 76 didn't come easy. He dropped birdie putts of considerable length on the 16th and 18th holes for birdies.

"I didn't play well," he said. "I would have been happy with a 73."

Losing three shots to par at 17 was Dickson's only barrier to that goal.

El Paso Amateurs Learning Lessons

By **JEFF JENKINS**

Times Sports Writer

At the 62nd annual Southwestern Amateur Golf Tournament this week, Bruce Duncan and Steve Haskins are earning something more valuable than any championship trophy.

The former Coronado golf stars, just two of El Paso's young, top-notch golf prospects, are gaining combat experience.

"This tournament is fantastic for both players because they get into the real competition of the Southwestern," said Coronado Golf Coach Robert Wilson.

Both are good, solid players," he added. "Steve has always been a fantastic player and Bruce is a real thinker. Bruce isn't going to pull something stupid out there.

"In my opinion, both golfers have the

ability to play professional golf. Whether they select to do so depends on them. Both have the determination, stamina, and cool head to play golf. They work at the game where others do not."

Arlin Maddox, another El Paso high school standout now at Houston Baptist, made the 54-hole cutoff score at the Southwestern ending Saturday, as did Tony St. John and Anthony's Russell Olson. Herb Wimberly III, son of New Mexico State pro Herb Wimberly, was tied with St. John at 229 after three rounds.

For Haskins, the Southwestern Amateur's big-name amateur field doesn't affect the way he plays. "Competition-wise, this is the toughest tournament I've played in," he said. "But I've played against tough competition before. It used to affect the way I played, but not any more."

After a year of strong competition on the college level, Duncan has adapted to playing under pressure. "I'd have to say that the college tournaments I've played in like the All-American and the Morris Williams were more important than this tournament is, the SMU freshman related. "There's a lot of good players here, but that doesn't have anything to do with the way I play."

Both Haskins and Duncan have been playing daily since the close of school to prepare for the Southwestern tournament.

"I've been playing most every day with Gene Fisher," said Duncan. "He's a real good competitor. When you play against him you have to play like hell."

Wilson feels that Duncan and Haskins are as talented as any in the Southwestern Tournament field. "I expect for them to finish in the top five," he said. "In my opinion, they're that good."

Haskins would like to play that well. "My goal is to finish in the top five in this tournament."

If Duncan was shooting that high, he didn't come right out and say it. "I just want to play as good as possible, to just play some solid golf."

Haskins, who will be a freshman at Houston Baptist this fall, has some other goals in mind. "I would like to qualify for the U.S. Amateur Champions Tournament," he stated.

Neither Haskins nor Duncan would boast of their chances of winning the Southwestern Championship, but utilization of the home-course advantage might be the key ingredient this week for the young but talented golfers.

FOOTBALL

T-Bird Sub Sinks Rockets With

By **JEFF JENKINS**
Times Sports Writer

Richard Gevertz replaced an injured Jerry Goodrich and directed the Coronado Thunderbirds to a 34-6 victory over Irvin Friday night at Rocket Stadium.

On Gevertz' first attempt the junior completed a 42-yard touchdown pass to Forrest Rich with 8:26 remaining in the third period to give Coronado a 13-6 lead.

The first half was a defensive battle as the two teams fought to a 6-6 half-time tie.

Coronado got on the scoreboard

first when Mark Heath kicked a 24-yard field goal with a minute left in the first period.

But the Rockets came back with a 59-yard scoring play at the four-second mark in the initial period.

Quarterback Eddie Alvara pitched to halfback Mario Briones, who then threw to Lee Campos who had gotten behind the Thunderbird secondary. Tommy Grado failed on the PAT, and the Rockets held their first and final lead of the game at 6-3.

With 7:20 left in the half, Heath added another field goal to the tally to knot the score 6-6.

On their opening possession of the final half, the T-Birds picked up two first downs while advancing the ball to the Irvin 42.

Two runs of nine and five yards by fullback Kenny Bell set up Gevertz' scoring throw.

The T-Birds dominated the game from that point on.

On Irvin's very next possession, Alvara fumbled and T-Bird linebacker Darryl Carpenter recovered at the Irvin 37. Eight plays later, Carpenter himself punched it over from two yards out, making the tally 20-6 with 4:22 to go in the third stanza.

Second-Half Bombs

Early in the fourth quarter, Coronado deflected a Hector Balli punt and the T-Birds again found themselves with good field position at the Irvin 42.

Coronado marched down field, with Rich capping the seven-play drive with a 10-yard burst. Heath again added the point-after, making it 27-6.

With seven minutes to go in the contest, the Rockets offense shifted into the shotgun formation, but to no avail.

Irvin managed one productive drive after switching offensive sets but a holding penalty put the Rockets in a

fourth-and-25 situation at their own 31.

Balli then took a bad snap from center and was decked for a 13-yard loss.

Coronado then completed a six-play drive when Jameson went over from two yards out and the T-Birds grabbed the game's winning tally at 34-6.

With a fourth-and-14 at its own 23 yard line, Coronado, on the last play of the game, faked a punt with Gevertz running 50 yards before finally being pulled down at the Rocket 27 yard line.

SPORTING GOODS

THE EL PASO TIMES

Newsome Gets His Kicks Off The Field

Billy Newsome of the New York Jets is one NFL player who gets plenty of action during the off-season.

The veteran defensive end is in a county jail today facing charges of kidnaping, assaulting and menacing his 27-year-old wife.

The Arapahoe County district attorney's office filed formal charges Thursday stemming from an incident last Friday night. Newsome was being held in the Arapahoe County Jail in lieu of \$75,000 bond.

Newsome's wife, Lolita, told investigators that her husband forced her into the family car last Friday night and drove her to a remote area where he struck her in the face, pointed a revolver at her

and said, "I'll blow your brains out."

Mrs. Newsome said she jumped from the car, but her husband grabbed her, threw her in the trunk and drove around for two hours before returning to their home and releasing her, investigators said.

Newsome, 29, turned himself in to a Greenwood Village Police station in southeast Denver Tuesday night, and was charged with second-degree kidnaping, third-degree assault and felony menacing.

Mark Fidrych wasn't the first pitcher that was a little crazy.

Hall of Famer Lefty Gomez says he was talking to baseballs before Fidrych was born.



sporting goods

Especially when the bases were loaded and the next batter would lose a Gomez fastball in the cheap seats.

"I'd yell, 'Go foul, you so-and-so,' " Gomez told a crowd of 300 persons Thursday night at a dinner to kick off the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Baseball Tournament.

Gomez, a New York Yankees standout who played in the major leagues from 1930 to 1943, said he thought it's tougher to be a hitter today than it was when he was

pitching.

"The average pitcher who comes to the big leagues today is better equipped," Gomez said. "We threw the fastball, curveball, screwball. But the guys coming up today already have the whole assortment."

If Gomez has the idea of attempting a comeback, he'd have to be a little crazy.

James Harris won't say it, but chances are he would like to be traded by the Los Angeles Rams to a team that would give him a better chance at being the starting quarterback.

Harris, one of the few black signal-callers in the NFL, lost his starting job to Pat Haden during

the 1976 season. He feels he could lead them to the Super Bowl if given the chance.

"I never said I wanted to be traded," Harris said Thursday. "That situation is in the hands of the Rams, as is my contract situation." Harris has one year left on his contract with the Rams.

"Based on my performance over the past three years," said Harris. "I shouldn't have been benched. "I think Haden taking over as the No. 1 quarterback on the Rams was a management decision, not one made by Coach Chuck Knox.

"There's no question in my mind that the Rams have enough talent that I could quarterback them to the Super Bowl," added Harris.

—Edited by JEFF JENKINS.

A&M Dashes Tech's

By JEFF JENKINS

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — At the start, it appeared Texas Tech was on the verge of upsetting seventh-ranked Texas A&M before a Kyle Field crowd of 56,121 Saturday, but the Aggies quickly took the wind out of the Red Raiders' sails and breezed to a 38-9 Southwest Conference victory.

Keying on halfback sensation Curtis Dickey in the early moments, the Red Raiders' defense was able to hold the 6-1, 205-pound junior to 18 yards on eight carries in the opening half. But Dickey, whose rushing average stood at 8.0 going into the contest, exploded in the second half, finishing the game with 161 yards on 20 carries.

At the start of the third period, the Aggies began to go into the I-formation more freely, while still using the basic Wishbone.

On their first offensive series of the closing half, the Aggies traveled 63 yards on nine plays to pull out to a 24-6 lead. Dickey, using key blocks by fullback David Brothers, picked up 65 yards on six carries during the series, with Brothers diving over left guard for the final yard.

"Brothers did an excellent job," said Aggie Coach Emory Bellard. "Any time you have a guy who runs for yards, you can bet there is some excellent blocking in front."

Trailing 6-0 in the late moments of the first quarter, quarterback Mike Mosley took to the air, completing a 46-yard pass to Gerald Carter down to the Raider 17-yard line, the first big gain of the game for the Aggies.

After halfback Adger Armstrong picked up 15 yards on the next two plays, Brothers went off right tackle for a 2-yard tally. Tony Franklin's kick gave the Aggies the lead for good 7-6.

Early in the second quarter, Mosley, running the option well, cut up the right sideline and outran the Tech secondary for 64 yards to score with 10:56 left in the half. Franklin's PAT gave A&M an eight-point margin.

At the outset, two Aggie miscues gave the Red Raiders ample opportunity to jump to a large lead, but a ferocious pass rush proved to be the best defense as the Aggies were able to hold Tech to two first-half field goals.

The first of the Red Raider three-pointers came with 11:05 left in the opening period when Bill Adams connected from 19 yards, capping a 58-yard drive for Tech. Prior to the kick, fullback James Hadnot burst around left end on a 30-yard scamper to the Aggie 47.

On A&M's first offensive down, defensive end Jeff McKinney jumped on an Armstrong fumble at the Aggie 11. But A&M's defensive secondary rose to the occasion. On third-and-eight, cornerback Darrell Smith's diving deflection of a pass from Tech quarterback Ron Reeves to split end Brian Nelson saved six points for A&M, and forced a 26-yard kick by Adams.

"We're playing together ball," said Smith following the game. "Last year, a lot of us were playing as individuals, but this year, we've grown to-

gether.

"They threw the ball at us," he added, "but I believe we really handled ourselves. The main thing was not to give up the long pass and run."

Overall, the Raiders were successful with the pass. Despite a swarming pass rush put on by the Aggies, Reeves and his three receivers, Godfrey Turner, Mark Harrelson and Nelson, combined for 143 yards through the air.

"The key to the pass defense is to have a big rush up front," said A&M defensive tackle Eugene Sanders. "I think we played average, at least my

Upset Hopes 38-9

performance was average. I don't like being scored on."

On the Aggies' second possession of the second half, again it was Dickey who paced A&M to its second straight tally, a 76-yard drive on seven plays. On four carries, Dickey compiled 62 yards, turning the left corner and outracing the Red Raider defenders for the final 15.

Mosley, who finished the afternoon with 115 yards on 14 carries, directed the Aggies to the final score with 12:47 remaining. Mosley's 13-yard pass to Doug Teague pushed A&M across the midfield

stripe and a 9-yard keeper by the sophomore speedster gave the Aggies a first down at the Tech 34.

Four plays later, Armstrong galloped around left end for the 8-yard score. Franklin's kick made it 38-9.

The Raiders' place kicker, Adams, stole the show from the usually accurate Franklin with his three field goals, the latter a 27-yard kick with 1:20 left in the third quarter.

Franklin was 1-of-2, booting a 32-yarder with 27 seconds left in the first half. Franklin missed from 53 yards out with 3:48 left.

Hearne's defense proves tough

By JEFF JENKINS
Special Correspondent

HEARNE — Hearne's tough defense stiffened in the clutch here Friday night to hold off lightning-quick Hempstead for a 14-6 victory in the season opener for both squads.

The Eagles managed to shut down the Bobcats' high-powered offense, which, led by workhorse tailback Kenneth Taylor, rushed for 171 yards in the opening half. Taylor ran for 117 of those yards, all on 13 carries, but was held to 39 yards in the second half for a 156 total.

The main spark that ignited the Eagles came with 4:23 remaining before halftime when Carlos Davis stole a William Davis pass from a Hempstead defender and galloped 63 yards for the score. Bobby Simmons added the PAT to complete the game's scoring at 14-6.

Hearne jumped on the scoreboard first early in the initial period when fullback Chuck Jackson went over left tackle for the one-yard tally.

The Eagles acquired excellent field position prior to the play when Bobcat punter Curtis White's 11-yard punt went out of bounds at the

Hempstead 16-yard line. From there it took six plays for Jackson's score.

Hempstead pulled the contest to within a single point on the opening play of the second quarter. Taylor took the handoff from quarterback Jake Holland and shot up the middle en route to a 44-yard scoring sprint. White's PAT attempt went wide to the right.

The Eagles were once

again afforded excellent field position early in the final half when Vidaurri Higgins recovered a fumble at the Hempstead 42. However, Hearne was unable to take advantage of the miscue. Two plays later tailback George Smith returned the Bobcat favor with another fumble, this one recovered by Hempstead's Lanny Thibodeaux.

It appeared the Eagles were mounting another scoring drive at the outset of the fourth quarter, but, as had happened several times earlier, Hearne's

Hempstead Hearne

First Downs	7	5
Yds. Rushing	201	146
Yds. Passing	34	63
Total Yards	235	209
PA PC PI	2 1 1	2 0 0
Punts Avg.	7 27 6	6 31 8
Fumbles Lost	2 1	3 3
Pens. Yds.	4 40	4 30

offense sputtered. Two runs, of nine and five yards by Essie Petty to close the third period, put the Eagles in good position at their own 42. Two plays later, Smith went around end for 17 yards and a first down at the Hempstead 30. But four plays later, on a fourth-and-three situation, tackle Willie Freeman stopped William Davis' quarterback sneak attempt short of a first down.

With each team completing only one pass during the contest, it appeared that both squads were strong in the secondary. Defensive back Kenneth Hyson's deflection at the five-yard line of a pass from backup quarterback Anthony Hill was one of several defensive gems for the Eagles. The outstanding play countered a first-quarter deflection at the end zone by Thibodeaux that saved Hempstead from disaster.

Besides Carlos Davis' sparkling touchdown reception, Hempstead's Taylor latched on to the only other completion, one of the game's more exciting plays.

Midway through the fourth quarter, quarterback Holland rolled to his right and pitched to

Taylor who threw a perfect bullet to Thibodeaux. In addition to the 34 yards gained on the play, a personal foul tacked on an additional 15, moving the ball to the Hearne 25. But the Eagle defense managed to stop Taylor for no gain and an eight-yard deficit on a back-to-back plays, before sacking Hill for a 13 loss.

On paper, Hempstead outran Hearne in almost every category. The Bobcats had seven first downs as opposed to the Eagle's five and rushed for 201 yards while Hearne had but 146.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	
Hempstead	0 0 0 6
Hearne	7 7 0 0

Hearne Chuck Jackson 1 yard run (Bobby Simmons kick)

Hempstead Kenneth Taylor 44 yard run (kick fails)

Hearne Carlos Davis 63 yard pass from

William Davis (Bobby Simmons kick)

Hearne smashes Elgin Wildcats

By Jeff Jenkins
Special Correspondent

HEARNE — The Hearne Eagles, led by Bobby Simmons, Tood Dent and Co., took advantage of numerous Elgin miscues here Friday night and ran away to a 34-7 triumph over the Wildcats.

Simmons booted field goals of 18 and 35 yards and, with Dent's help, came up with one big play after another on defense.

On the second play of the second quarter, Simmons recovered running back Anthony Cathey's fumble at the Elgin 33-yard line. Two plays later, quarterback William Davis rolled to his right and hit Carlos Davis, who ran down the left sideline for a 42-yard score. Simmons' PAT went wide and the Eagles led 9-0.

With 7:05 remaining in the first half, center Dent recovered teammate Essie Petty's fumble in the end zone. When combined with William Davis' PAT completion to Carlos Davis, the touchdown upped Hearne's margin to 20 points. Simmons had set up the score four plays earlier by recovering running back Elroy Falke's fumble at the 33.

It wasn't until the outset of the second half that the Wildcats' electrifying offense began to chip away yardage on the ground. Elgin managed to pick up 119 yards rushing in the closing half, but each time the Wildcats began to mount a drive, the offense

	Hearne	Elgin
First Downs	8	14
Yds Rushing	94	197
Yds Passing	104	11
Total Yards	198	208
PA PC PI	4 1 1	12 6 1
Punts Avg	42.0	0.0
Fumbles Lost	4	10
Pens Yds	546	638

sputtered.

Elgin picked up its lone score on a six-yard gallop by Cliff Perry with 3:02 left in the game, culminating a 14-play, 68-yard drive.

The play that sealed the win for Hearne, their third of the season, came with 11:10 remaining. Simmons broke through the line to block Dan Brandt's fourth-down punt, and Dent fell on the loose ball in the end zone. After a bad snap on the PAT attempt, Simmons grabbed the ball and skirted into the end zone making the tally 34-0.

From the start of the contest, it appeared that neither team cared to be on the offensive as the two squads traded the ball on several fumbles.

After two turnovers by both teams on four consecutive plays, Vidaurri Higgins set up Simmons' 18-yard kick by recovering a Wildcat fumble at the Elgin four. After three running plays with no gain, Simmons opened the game's scoring at 3-0.

Simmons' second three-pointer was set up by Chuck Jackson's recovery of a Falke fumble at the Wildcat 17 yard-line. Three plays and 5 yards later, the 207-pound place kicker made it 12-0.

The Hearne defense did the job with which it was most concerned: stopping Falke. The highly touted running back was held to 30 yards rushing, even after picking up 32 on a run with time running out in the first half. Although it appeared Elgin would score after Falke's long sprint and a 15-yard penalty against Hearne for personal foul, Falke fumbled away Elgin's hopes of getting on the scoreboard, as the Eagles went to the locker room with a 26-0 lead.

Statistically, the Wildcats had the edge, gaining 14 first downs to Hearne's eight, and picking up 203 total yards, while the Eagles had 198.

Katy upsets Rattlers, 14-12

By JEFF JENKINS
Sports Correspondent

NAVASOTA—Although it appeared that a stubborn Navasota defense had the game under control from the outset Friday night at Brule Field, the Katy Tigers, riding the arm of Gary Poe and the feet of Jeff Middleton, slipped by for a 14-12 victory.

It was the Tigers, after grabbing a 14-6 lead in the third quarter, who relied on defense to hold off the Rattlers in the final period.

After starting at their own 20 with three minutes to play in the game, the Rattlers marched down the field behind the

awesome running of substitute quarterback Marvin Wesley.

Wesley, running the option impressively, moved Navasota to the Katy 40-yard line before a wall of Tiger defenders turned back tailback Boo Johnson on a fourth-and-short-yardage situation.

Trailing 6-0 at halftime, Katy took the second-half kickoff and marched 60 yards in 11 plays for their first of two touchdowns in the contest.

Middleton capped the drive by breaking up the middle for a 17-yard score. Mark Lane added the PAT

kick to give the Tigers a 7-6 lead.

Two sets of downs later, with over five minutes left in the third period, defensive back Tom Kramer recovered a Ronald Sauls fumble for Katy at the Navasota 22-yard line.

After four plays and a 15-yard clipping penalty, Poe rolled to his right and hit receiver Loy Maxon up the middle for a 25-yard tally. Lane then made it 14-6.

Sauls took the ensuing kickoff and returned 53 yards to the Katy 42, at which time Wesley replaced Sauls at the helm.

Using Wesley's ability to run wide on the option, the Rattlers moved the remaining yards in 11 plays, with James Hester

	Katy	Navasota
First Downs	7	13
Yds. Rushing	68	164
Yds. Passing	107	11
Total Yards	175	175
PA PC PI	15 6 1	13 1 1
Punts Avg	27.0	47.8
Fumbles Lost	1 0	5 2
Pens Yds	4 75	8 43

breaking over right tackle for the final yard.

Still trailing 14-12, the Rattlers decided to attempt the two-point conversion, but Wesley bobbed the snap and was forced to make a futile lunge for the goal line; the Katy defenders stopped him inches short.

It first appeared that the two teams would go to the locker room scoreless, but the Rattlers mounted 70-yard drive in the closing minutes of the opening half.

Led by Johnson, who climaxed the drive when he went around end for the three-yard TD, the Rattlers used 12 plays to make the score 6-0. Due to a high snap, Navasota was unable

to complete the PAT.

Following the Navasota touchdown, quarterback Poe went to the air in an attempt to rally the Tigers before intermission. However, his first pass was picked off by Lester Steptoe at the Rattler's own 21-yard line. But instead of playing conservatively, with less than a minute left on the clock, Saul dropped back to pass and was intercepted by his counterpart Poe at the 36.

Fortunately for Navasota, a Poe pass thrown on the money, was batted away on a spectacular defensive play by Steptoe, as time ran out in the half.

In addition to his skills at quarterback, Poe demonstrated his punting ability on a 56-yard kick late in the second half, pinning Navasota deep in their own territory. However, it was then that the Rattlers mounted their lone scoring drive.

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4
Katy	0	0	14	0
Navasota	0	6	0	6

Navasota: Boo Johnson 3 yard run (kick fails)
Katy: Jeff Middleton 17 yard run (Mark Lane kick)
Katy: Loy Maxon 25 yard pass from Gary Poe (Lane kick)
Navasota: James Hester 1 yard run (Run fails)

Calvert falls to Franklin

By JEFF JENKINS
Sports Correspondent

CALVERT — Franklin's depth proved too much for Calvert to handle Friday night as the Lions exploded for 34 second-half points en route to a 48-3 shelling of the Trojans.

Substituting freely at backfield positions, the Lions rolled up 623 yards on the ground, 409 earned after intermission.

The victory pushed Franklin to a 3-0 mark in 24-A action, 7-0 on the season. The Trojans are 1-0-1 in league play, 2-3-1 overall.

Leading 14-3 at halftime, the Lions were unable to put the game out of Calvert's reach until the outset of the third quarter. On the first play from scrimmage in the closing half, halfback Richard Ellison broke through a wide hole in the Trojan line and skirted 61 yards for the touchdown.

The PAT run failed, but the Lions had a commanding 20-3 lead.

In the first period, it didn't take long for Franklin to jump on the scoreboard. On their initial series of downs, the Lions followed runs of 9 and 10 yards by Dennis Varvel

	Franklin	Calvert
First Downs	20	6
Yds. Rushing	623	127
Yds. Passing	64	44
Total Yards	687	171
PA-PC-PI	8-4-1	13-4-2
Punts-Avg.	2-37.5	4-37.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	5-3
Pens.-Yds	11-65	4-11

and a 17 yarder by Ellison, before Ellison went around right end for a 10-yard tally with 7:53 left in the quarter.

The conversion try failed.

The Trojans retaliated on the second play of the second quarter with Sedic Fleming's 22-yard field goal, but on the Lion's next play from scrimmage, Bubba Hancock burst off right tackle and outran the Calvert secondary for a 70-yard tally. Ross Simmons ensuing run made it 14-3.

At the start it appeared Calvert had hopes of up-setting the eight-ranked

Lions. On their second possession of the contest, the Trojans moved from their own 47 to the Lion four-yard line, before a fumbled snap gave the ball back to Franklin.

After forcing the Lions to punt, Calvert again moved the ball steadily, this time from the Franklin 42 to the nine. But after Charley Carey's pass to Andre Ford was batted down by Hancock, the Trojans settled for Fleming's three-pointer.

Directly following Ellison's 61-yard sprint to open the second half, Raymond Scrimshire fell on Gary Carey's fumble at the Lion's own 48. A 28-yard gallop by Hancock then set up a two-yard TD by Varvel. Ellison then went around right end to tack on two more points, giving Franklin a 28-3 margin.

Once again, the Lions

forced a Calvert turnover.

This time Ascension Perez picked off a halfback pass from Gary Carey and returned it the Calvert 43. Ten plays later Simmons ran it from four yards out and Kevin Washington's run made it 36-3.

Earl Garrison capped the 98-yard drive with a six-yard touchdown.

The Lions still were not finished. After a Charley Carey punt to the Calvert 39, the Lions, in five plays, punched it over from one-yard out with no time showing on the clock. The PAT run failed. Garrison's TD had made the final score 48-3.

Score by Quarters	6	8	22	10	48
Franklin	0	3	0	0	3
Calvert	0	0	0	0	0
Franklin	Richard Ellison 10 yd run (run failed)				
Calvert	Sedic Fleming 22 yd field goal				
Franklin	Bubba Hancock 70 yd run (Ross Simmons run)				
Franklin	Richard Ellison 61 yd run (run failed)				
Franklin	Dennis Varvel 2 yd run (Richard Ellison run)				
Franklin	Ross Simmons 4 yd run (Kevin Washington run)				
Franklin	Earl Garrison 6 yd run (Run fails)				
Franklin	Earl Garrison 1 yd run (Run fails)				

Houston Furr beats Brenham in 13-0 contest

By JEFF JENKINS
Sports Correspondent

BREHAM — Two second-half touchdown passes from Houston Furr quarterback Danny Dobbins spoiled Brenham High's homecoming Friday night, as the Brahmans blanked the hosts 13-0 at Cub Stadium.

With the score deadlocked at 0-0, Furr came out throwing at the outset

game's scoring at 13-0.

Before halftime, it was a defensive struggle. But after a colorful half-time show, during which Lisa Boehnke was named homecoming queen, the visiting opponents of-fense, led by Dobbins, came to life.

The biggest gainer in the opening two periods was a 49-yard run by Lott, setting up first down at the Furr 31. But a five-yard illegal procedure penalty (the Brahmans had 12 of them, totaling 86 yards) and a might fourth-down tackle on David Hutchinson by Robert Durrenberger, kept the Cubs from hitting paydirt.

Twice in the opening half, Furr penetrated the Cub 20-yard line, but the Brahmans couldn't manage to break the scoreless tie either.

Midway through the first quarter, Michael Jackson jumped on quarterback Kyle Casburn's fumble at the Brenham 25. The Brahmans got as close as the 14, but three plays later Geisler missed a 35-yard field goal.

Again Furr was afforded a turn-over deep in Brenham territory, and again the Brahmans were unable to use the miscue to their advantage. This time it was Edwin Barnes jumping on a D.A. Ervin fumble at the Brenham 22.

But five plays later, on the third play of th second quarter, Gary Ross picked off Dobbins' pass in the end zone.

Dobbins' passes went for 110 yard during the contest, but it was Furr's rushing combination — Kermit Richardson, David Richards and Timothy Calvert — that totaled 22 yards and netted 14 first downs.

Offense wasn't Furr's only asset. The Brahmans kept the Cubs to three first downs on 80 yards rushing and 18 passing.

H. Furr Brenham

First Downs	14	3
Yds. Rushing	222	80
Yds. Passing	110	18
Total Yards	332	98
PA PC PI	16 6 1	12 2 2
Punts Avg	7 33.8	7 39.8
Fumbles Lost	4 3	4 4
Pens. Yds	12 86	3 20

of the third quarter. On the Brahmans' second possession of the period, Dobbins hit receiver Calvin Eason for a 12-yard pickup, setting up first-and-ten at the Cubs' 12-yard line. But Furr was unable to break the tie, as Dobbins was sacked for a 14-yard loss on a fake field-goal attempt.

However, the Brahman defense was able to stop the Cub offense in three plays. After a Mike Schroeder punt, Furr initiated another lengthy drive beginning at its own 35.

Goung to the air once again, Dobbins hit receivers Neave Falls and Eason on throws of 13 and 11 yards respectively, giving the Brahmans a first down at the Cubs' 38.

On the next play, Dobbins rolled to his left and hit Eason near the left sideline. From there Neason took it in for the tally. The PAT failed, but Furr had the lead 6-0.

Late in the fourth quarter, Reginald Ballard recovered a Perry Lott fumble at the Brenham 32. Two plays later, Dobbins' 25-yard bomb was complete to Falls, who had beaten cornerback Gary Ross and was all alone in the endzone. Norman Geisler's kick completed the

Score by Quarters

H. Furr	0	0	0	3	13
Brenham	0	0	0	0	0
H. Furr	Calvin Eason 12 pass from Danny Dobbins (kick failed)				
H. Furr	Neave Falls 25 pass from Dobbins (Norman Geisler kick)				

A&M Gives Wilson First Victory

By JEFF JENKINS

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Rising from the shadows of adversity, an emotional Texas Aggie football team exploded to a 38-21 Southwest Conference victory over the Rice Owls Saturday at Kyle Field.

The dark cloud of controversy stemming from Tuesday's surprising resignation of Aggie mentor Emory Bellard had apparently evaporated as the now 5-2 A&M squad (2-2 in league play) made new head coach Tom Wilson's debut a successful one.

"I'm extremely excited," said Wilson, Bellard's offensive coordinator the past four seasons and former Texas Tech quarterback. "Basically, we had to come back together as a team.

"Our big concern the whole week was their mental attitude," he added. "I'm real proud of the way this team got together and played together."

The Aggies didn't take long to light up the scoreboard. On their first play from scrimmage, sophomore quarterback Mike Mosley launched a 52-yard scoring bomb down the left sideline to junior split end Gerald Carter. With Tony Franklin's PAT kick, the Aggies led 7-0.

"I had been thinking about it (throwing long on first play) for five years if I ever became a head coach," Wilson said. "I just had to do it."

But the Owls had some aeronautic strategy of their own, as second-year

man Randy Hertel burned the Aggie secondary in the second half for three touchdowns and 136 yards through the air.

After Tony Franklin's 43-yard field goal put the Aggies out in front 31-0 on the Aggies' first possession of the third quarter, Hertel, from the Owls unique shotgun formation, went to work. Using a 14-yard pass interference penalty, and short passes to wide receivers David Houser and Darrell Mouton, Rice earned a first-and-goal situation at the two.

Following a quarterback sack and two incomplete passes, Hertel threw to Houser alone in the endzone on fourth and seven.

"We came back in the second half, but we were just too late to make it," said Rice coach Ray Alborn. "Our kids did a great job of coming back from far back."

An illegal procedure penalty against A&M on fourth and three enabled the Owls to continue their second scoring drive at the beginning of the fourth period. On the very next play, Hertel hit Houser for a 33-yard tally, that, when combined with Weg Hansen's kick, closed the Aggie margin to 31-14.

With junior halfback sensation Curtis Dickey on the sidelines with leg injuries, Wilson installed new motion plays and went entirely with the I-formation. With the offense that was new to the crowd of 51,461, the Aggies

churned out 352 yards overground and 134 via the airwaves. Tailback David Brothers rushed for 164 yards on 25 attempts.

A&M managed to score on its first three possessions. After the first scoring pass completion, passes from Mosley to Russell Mikaska and long bursts through the defensive line by Brothers, moved the Aggies 48 yards in nine plays, with fullback Raymond Belcher diving for the final yard with 3:06 left in the first stanza.

Belcher capped the Aggies' third

drive with a one-yard plunge with 1:58 left in the quarter. Brothers rushed for 32 yards on the drive that initiated at the Rice 40, following a interference penalty against Rice on the punt reception.

With time running out in the opening half, it was again Brothers whose 55 yards on seven carries sparked a 74-yard scoring drive. The 5-foot-10, 221-pound junior took it in himself with 40 seconds left before intermission. Franklin made it 28-0 with his PAT kick.