

GREG D'ALEXANDER

ANOTHER BANNER YEAR

The Hogs made it two in a row with their second straight Southwest Conference baseball championship.

After sharing the Southwest Conference championship with the Texas A&M Aggies in 1989, the Arkansas Razorbacks set out on a mission to take the title for themselves in 1990.

Arkansas started the year by winning its first three games. The Hogs beat Missouri Southern in the season opener and took two games from Kansas State before dropping the third game of the series to

the Wildcats. Arkansas then lost to Kansas before rattling off wins in nine of the next ten games to give the Hogs a record of 12-3 heading into the Pepsi/Me-N-Ed's Classic in Fresno, Calif.

At Fresno, Arkansas met George Washington University in the opening game of the tournament. The Razorbacks defeated the Colonials 5-1 before Brigham Young University handed the Hogs their only loss of the tourney. The Cougars edged Arkansas 6-5. Norm DeBriyn's club then beat Gonzaga 7-4, Maine 14-0 and Eastern Michigan 9-2 to set up the championship game with the host team, Fresno State University. The title game was a classic one between the Bulldogs and Hogs. Arkansas took an early lead, but fell behind Fresno State 4-3 going into the ninth. The Razorbacks made two quick outs in the top of the ninth, but all-America Greg D'Alexander singled to keep the Arkansas hopes alive. He scored on Haden Ethridge's single to tie the game at 4-4. Bubba Carpenter delivered a single to score Etheridge and Scott Epps came home on an error to end the inning with the Hogs on top 6-4. Stidham pitched the seventh, eighth and ninth innings and allowed no runs to pick up the win as the Hogs pushed their record to 17-4. D'Alexander the tournament MVP, Epps, Stidham and Kirk Piskor all earned all-tourney honors while in Fresno.

Back in the Ozarks, the Hogs swept doubleheaders from Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Louisiana Tech before starting SWC play. For the SWC opener, the Razorbacks traveled to Houston, Tex. to play the University of Houston. Bubba Carpenter had three doubles and D'Alexander collected three RBI as the Hogs beat Houston 6-1 in the opener. Arkansas took game two of the three-game series by the score of 6-4 with Stidham picking up the win in relief to improve his record to 3-0. Game three wasn't a pretty one for the Hogs as Houston came out on top with a 6-0 shutout victory over Arkansas. After the Hogs' first SWC series their record was 22-5 overall and 2-1 in the league.

The Razorbacks' next league series was with the Texas Tech Red Raiders in Fayetteville. Doug Bennett, Swope and Dan Brown picked up wins in the Tech series to boost the Hogs' record to 27-5 with a 5-1 league mark. Arkansas beat Indiana State and lost to the School of the Ozarks before entertaining the TCU Horned Frogs. D'Alexander drove in four runs to help the Hogs to a 10-3 blowout in game one. Bennett beat the Frogs with five strong innings in game two and Gary Harris registered the win in game three. Stidham notched saves in two of the three games as Arkansas ran its record to 31-6 overall and 8-1 in SWC play.

The Baylor Bears awaited the Hogs in Waco, Tex. for another SWC showdown. D'Alexander and Piskor swatted dingers to help the Hogs crush the Bears in the series opener 13-3. Pitching was in vogue in game two as Baylor, behind Scott Ruffcorn's complete game, edged Arkansas 2-1. Arkansas won the series in another close game as Brown and Stidham teamed up for eight scoreless innings of relief to give the Hogs a 3-2 victory and improve Arkansas record to 34-7 and 10-2.

Arkansas beat Dallas Baptist, Northeastern State and Southwest Missouri State before hosting the Rice Owls at Fayetteville. After an easy 9-1 Arkansas victory in game one, the Owls clipped the Hogs 2-1 with Rob Howard beating Arkansas for the second time in two years. Stidham was tagged with the loss, the first of his career. Blake Little was the hero in the final game of the series. He tripled and scored the winning run in the bottom of the 11th inning to give Arkansas a 6-5 victory and push their record to 39-8 and 12-3.

Victories over Oral Roberts University and Oklahoma State set up one of the most important series of the year for Arkansas. Game one was a wild and crazy contest that

saw Arkansas jump on all-America pitcher Kirk Dressendorfer for six runs in the first inning. Arkansas had a 10-2 lead in the fifth, but the Horns rallied off of Arkansas' usually untouchable relief ace Phillip Stidham for five runs. The Porkers held on to win the game 13-11 with Rob Dodd getting the save, his first of the year. Crafty lefthander Brian Dare threw a complete game for Texas as the Horns won the middle game 4-3. Mark Johnson led the charge for the Razorbacks in the final game. He went five-for-five and tallied two RBI as Arkansas won the third game 6-5 and became the first SWC school to win a series in Austin since 1983.

The final three games of the SWC season would decide who would be the 1990 SWC champion. Arkansas played the Aggies of Texas A&M while Texas was doing battle with TCU. Texas lost one of their three games to TCU meaning the Hogs would have to win two of three games against the Aggies in Fayetteville. Rich Robertson fired a two-hitter to defeat the Hogs 4-3 in game one while Bennett matched him with a complete-game win in game two for Arkansas. Game three was for all the marbles. If the Hogs won they would be SWC champs, if not, the Longhorns would get the title. Texas A&M took an early 2-0 lead, but the Hogs came back with one run in the second inning. Piskor clubbed his 12th home run of the year, a three-run shot, to give Arkansas a 4-2 lead in the third inning before the Aggies tied it at 4-4 in the fourth. Arkansas exploded for nine runs in the next two innings to blow the game out of reach for the Hogs. D'Alexander had the big blow, a grand slam home run in the bottom of the fourth to seal the league title for the Razorbacks. It was the first outright league crown ever for the Hogs and the second SWC title in two years.

Arkansas' final two regular-season games were against Wichita State in Wichita, KS. The Razorbacks took the first game 6-4 on ESPN with Bennett getting the win and Stidham picking up the save. The Shockers salvaged a split the next day with a 3-0 victory over the Hogs.

With the regular season completed, the Hogs ventured south to the 14th annual SWC Post-Season Tournament in Austin. As SWC champions, the Hogs drew the Rice Owls as their first opponent. D'Alexander and Piskor each drove in two runs as Arkansas beat the Owls 7-5.

1990 SWC BASEBALL STANDINGS

	Conf.	Pct.	Overall	Pct.
ARKANSAS	16-5	.762	47-15	.758
Texas	15-5	.750	51-17	.750
Houston	12-9	.571	44-23	.657
Rice	11-9	.550	33-29	.532
Texas A&M	11-10	.524	43-17	.717
Baylor	9-12	.429	33-19	.635
Texas Tech	5-16	.238	31-29	.517
TCU	4-17	.190	27-32	.458

The next two games of the tournament were not good ones for the Razorbacks. Texas jumped all over Hog starter Mark Swope for seven runs and never looked back as the Longhorns defeated Arkansas 11-4. In the loser's bracket, the Hogs met up with the Houston Cougars and were handed a 7-1 loss sending Arkansas back to Fayetteville to wait on a NCAA Tournament bid.

Arkansas received a number-one seed for the second straight year and made an NCAA Tournament appearance for the 10th consecutive season. The Razorbacks were sent to Wichita, KS by the tournament selection committee and faced the Fordham Rams in their opening game. Pitching and defense went south for the Razorbacks as the Rams beat the Hogs 8-5. Arkansas committed four errors and gave up four unearned runs to aid the Rams in the victory. The Hogs second game was a close one, but nevertheless, the Hogs came up on the short end of the stick as they fell to the Wichita State Shockers by the score of 7-6. The Razorbacks finished the season with a 47-15 record and became only the fifth team in school history to win 45 or more games in a season.

BATTING . . .

BATTER	GP	AB	R	H	TB	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB-CS	SH	SF	HBP	CI	GW	SLG%	BA
D'Alexander, G	60	212	51	82	146	18	2	14	65	37	31	10-1	0	3	1	0	10	.689	.387
Downey, C	30	72	21	27	39	5	2	1	19	5	8	5-2	2	1	1	0	2	.542	.375
Piskor, K	62	247	56	89	147	13	3	13	63	25	38	12-7	0	3	2	0	7	.595	.360
Carpenter, B	56	161	44	58	83	15	2	2	34	43	31	13-3	3	4	5	0	10	.516	.360
Etheridge, H	37	96	14	34	43	4	1	1	19	8	15	3-3	0	1	3	0	1	.448	.354
Johnson, M	57	178	44	61	79	7	4	1	36	26	17	26-3	3	1	5	0	4	.444	.343
Brown, D	16	3	1	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1.333	.333
Little, B	30	24	7	8	13	1	2	0	2	3	5	2-1	0	0	0	0	0	.542	.333
Houck, J	60	213	53	66	85	7	3	2	27	37	21	23-7	7	1	6	0	1	.399	.310
Epps, S	62	234	36	72	108	15	6	3	34	26	24	11-7	0	1	4	0	3	.462	.308
Thomas, T	62	182	49	54	82	18	2	2	35	54	38	3-5	8	1	3	0	4	.451	.297
Hreha, D	24	46	14	13	17	2	1	0	4	9	7	5-2	0	0	0	0	0	.370	.283
Gilmore, T	58	162	25	44	68	6	3	4	28	22	13	0-0	5	2	8	0	1	.420	.272
Liles, G	20	23	1	6	8	2	0	0	4	4	4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	.348	.261
Moore, R	23	23	6	6	6	0	0	0	3	2	4	1-1	0	0	0	0	1	.261	.261
Taft, S	13	21	2	5	6	1	0	0	5	2	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	.286	.238
Carpenter, J	39	84	9	19	30	1	2	2	15	5	9	2-3	0	1	1	0	0	.357	.226
Hobson, T	14	14	4	3	5	0	1	0	0	1	7	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	.357	.214

Arkansas	62	1995	437	648	969	115	34	46	394	309	276	117-46	28	19	39	0	44	.486	.325
Opponents	62	1946	255	513	760	103	18	36	227	208	390	31-44	19	17	27	1	14	.391	.264

Left on base — Arkansas:485, Opponents: 405

PITCHING . . .

PITCHER	GP-GS-CG	SHO	IP	H	BB	SO	R	ER	HRA	HB	WP	BK	W	L	S	ERA
Stidham, P	33- 0- 0	0	56.2	34	25	50	9	6	0	4	2	1	7	1	11	0.95
Troglin, M	6- 1- 0	0	8.2	8	2	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.08
Coppock, M	5- 0- 0	0	12.2	14	7	8	5	3	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2.13
Brown, D	13- 2- 0	0	53.0	48	13	46	21	17	3	2	3	0	4	1	1	2.89
Birch, B	15- 3- 0	0	39.1	48	17	18	18	14	1	0	1	0	4	1	1	3.20
Bennett, D	16-16- 4	0	96.0	91	44	86	48	37	8	5	2	0	10	2	0	3.47
Cook, B	14- 9- 1	0	59.0	71	14	32	36	27	5	3	3	1	4	2	1	4.12
Dodd, R	15-10- 3	2	62.2	67	32	46	35	29	4	3	7	1	5	3	1	4.16
Harris, G	11- 7- 0	0	43.0	48	13	23	23	22	6	0	3	0	4	0	0	4.60
Swope, M	15-13- 2	0	82.1	77	34	70	48	44	8	9	6	0	7	5	0	4.81
Little, B	3- 0- 0	0	4.1	4	4	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	8.31
Nesmith, T	1- 1- 0	0	2.1	3	3	2	6	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	19.29

Arkansas	62-62-10	2	520.0	513	208	390	255	210	36	27	29	3	47	15	15	3.63
Opponents	62-62-14	2	489.1	648	309	276	437	366	46	39	42	7	15	47	7	6.73

FIELDING . . .

POS PLAYER	GP	PO	A	E	DP	PB	PCT	POS PLAYER	GP	PO	A	E	DP	PB	PCT	POS PLAYER	GP	PO	A	E	DP	PB	PCT
IF Carpenter, B	31	239	15	3	34	0	.988	IF Hreha, D	5	7	1	0	0	0	1.000	P Birch, B	15	1	5	0	1	0	1.000
OF Carpenter, B	25	50	1	2	2	0	.962	OF Hreha, D	16	20	1	0	0	0	1.000	P Brown, D	13	1	7	0	1	0	1.000
IF Carpenter, J	23	85	11	4	10	0	.960	OF Johnson, M	55	97	6	0	2	0	1.000	P Cook, B	14	6	12	1	0	0	.947
OF Carpenter, J	13	6	1	0	0	0	1.000	IF Liles, G	11	40	1	0	2	0	1.000	P Coppock, M	5	0	1	0	0	0	1.000
IF D'Alexander, G	60	35	114	11	10	0	.931	OF Liles, G	3	2	1	0	0	0	1.000	P Dodd, R	15	5	15	1	0	0	.952
OF Downey, C	4	4	0	0	0	0	1.000	OF Little, B	25	8	0	1	0	0	.889	P Harris, G	11	1	9	0	0	0	1.000
IF Epps, S	62	115	175	25	42	0	.921	OF Moore, R	17	11	1	1	0	0	.923	P Little, B	3	0	1	0	0	0	1.000
IF Etheridge, H	28	171	10	5	20	0	.973	IF Piskor, K	13	63	12	3	0	3	.962	P Nesmith, T	1	0	1	0	0	0	1.000
IF Gilmore, T	56	322	51	3	3	3	.992	OF Piskor, K	21	27	3	3	0	0	.909	P Stidham, P	33	2	22	0	3	0	1.000
OF Hobson, T	5	6	0	0	0	0	1.000	OF Taft, S	4	3	0	0	0	0	1.000	P Swope, M	15	6	9	0	1	0	1.000
IF Houck, J	2	2	2	0	0	0	1.000	IF Thomas, T	62	126	171	8	54	0	.974	P Troglin, M	6	1	2	0	0	0	1.000
OF Houck, J	58	91	6	2	0	0	.980	P Bennett, D	16	5	14	2	1	0	.905								

Arkansas	62	1558	681	75	72	6	.968
Opponents	62	1468	682	98	65	16	.956

NORM DeBRIYN ERA TOP PERFORMERS

NO HITTERS:

David Rhodes vs. Northeast Oklahoma, 1977
Scott Glanz vs. North Dakota State, 1982
Tim Deitz vs. Texas A&M, 1983
Fred Faust vs. SW Baptist, 1984 (5 in.)
Steve Parker vs. Texas A&M, 1986 (7 in.)

TRIPLE PLAYS:

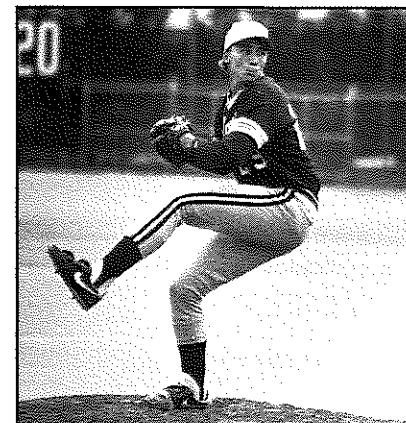
Brett Harrison to Jim Ward to Ralph Kraus (4-6-3)
vs. Texas, 1983 SWC Tournament

GRAND SLAM HOME RUNS:

Marc Brumble vs. Eastern Michigan, 1979
John Hennell vs. Baylor, 1979
Kevin McReynolds vs. TCU, 1980

Luis Zambrana vs. Tulsa, 1980

Tony Laird vs. Houston, 1984
Dave Patterson vs. NW Missouri St., 1985
Derrick Richardson vs. NW Mo. St., 1985
Jeff King vs. Texas A&M, 1985
Lynn Van Every vs. Indiana St. 1986
Rod Moore vs. Rice, 1986
Jeff King vs. Baylor, 1986
Jimmy Kremers vs. Kansas, 1988
Troy Eldund vs. N. Iowa, 1988; vs. Houston, 1988; vs. LeMoyné, 1989
Greg D'Alexander vs. Wisconsin, 1990; vs. Baylor, 1990; vs. Texas A&M, 1990



MARK SWOPE