

Ranger batters come up big against Austin 11-4

The Austin Bulldog varsity baseball team could not withstand a six run sixth inning by the Clements Rangers Thursday night falling in a district 20-5A matchup 11-4.

The Bulldog pitchers were hit early and often by the Ranger batters.

In the top of the first, the Rangers pulled to a four point lead with three hits. Austin pitcher, Nick Jones, got off to a shaky start hitting the first batter with his third pitch before giving up a triple and two singles.

The Clements batters got one more run from Jones before he was relieved by Adam Fields in the second inning.

In one and one-third inning Jones gave up 4 runs on six hits. Fields was able to get the Bulldogs out of the inning without any more runs scoring.

As much as the Austin pitching was struggling, the Austin batters were faring no better.

The Bulldogs scored their first run in the fourth inning. Through the first three innings, Austin had

no hits and left only one runner stranded.

In the fourth, Troy Holt was able to reach base on a walk, then Clay Visage got a single and John Warmke waled to load the bases.

Ben Hulse was able to hit a single, knocking in Holt for the only run of the inning.

The Rangers pulled away from the Bulldogs in the sixth inning. Clements started the inning with a lead-off double, then a bunt single to advance the runner to third. Fields was called for a balk, bringing the runner home from third.

Clements scored four more runs, including a two-run and a solo homer, before Fields was relived by Steven Ramirez.

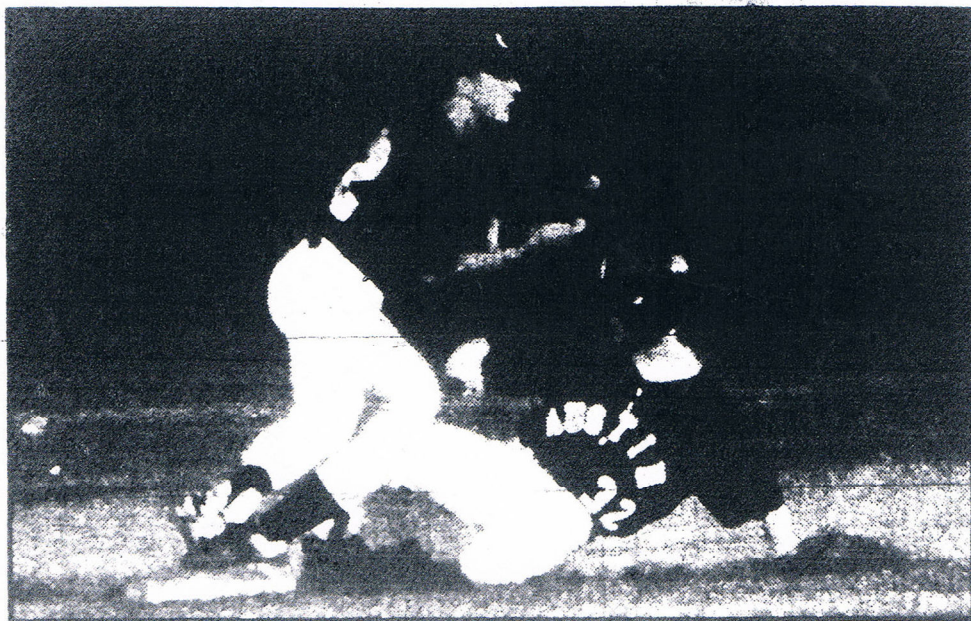
Ramirez gave up one run to close out the inning.

The Bulldogs attempted a come back in the bottom of the sixth.

Visage rapped a triple to right field, then Warmke came to the plate for another triple bringing in Visage.

Austin was able to get one more run in the inning, but that's as close as they could get, falling 11-4.

The Bulldogs fall to 4-8 overall and 1-2 in district play.



Staff photo by Phillip Boeza

Safe at second

Jacob Gobar successfully steals second in Bulldogs' 11-4 district loss to Clements.

Clements 410 8060-11 14 1
Austin 000 1030-4 70
WP-Tom Bates. LP-Nick Jones.