He may not have gotten much attention early but...

For the Bobcats, Fikac does it all...

By Michael Eddleman
Sports Editor

In baseball, there are those who excel at the plate, those who make amazing plays in the field and those who pitch as though the game belonged to them. On rare occasions, a player comes along who can do all three. And presents a special dilemma for his coach—where to play him.

Junior Howard Bushong, the answer to that dilemma is simple when it comes to senior Jeremy Fikac—anywhere, as long as he is in the game.

"He can play a lot of places for us and play them well," Bushong said. "He could even play shortstop for us if we needed him to."

A game at shortstop for Fikac would add a seventh position to his list of travels around the field this season.

Fikac has made nine starts for the Bobcats on the mound with a 5-4 record and has pitched in two relief appearances, earning one save. He has made starts at right and left field, first base, third base and as the designated hitter, but moving around on the field is something Fikac believes works in his favor.

"I've been playing different positions since high school," Fikac said. "The game never gets dull when you play a lot of different positions."

The defense didn't help the Bobcat offense in this game.

Center fielder Terry Clemmer had three hits, and shortstop Bryan Anderson added two more.

Left fielder Jeff Gonzalez hit his second home run of the season, a two-run round-tripper in the second inning and scored the winning run in the bottom of the ninth.

"I was pretty good in Little League and was the district MVP in high school, but I wasn't offered a scholarship to play in college anywhere," Fikac said. "I had a lot of offers, but pitching is primarily what Bushong relies on." 

"Pitching is one of the most difficult skills in baseball," Fikac said. "You have great games where you hit everything, followed by days when you don't even want to show up at the park because you are hitting so bad." 

Fikac will continue to show up, hoping to lead the Bobcats to a repeat of last season's finish and extend his baseball career as long as possible.

Fox signs four for '98 season

By Chris Chase
Assistant Sports Editor

The rebuilding process that began in the fall with the signings of Latoya Jones and Amber Morrow continued Wednesday as coach Suzanne Fox and her staff signed four more recruits for the 1998-99 season.

The coaches addressed their need for size by signing Morgan Moylan, a 6'0" forward from Granbury, and Earlanda Williams, a 6'0" forward from Flatonia.

"The positive with bringing in freshmen is that they won't have to unlearn a different college system," said assistant coach Lacole Brooks. "The negative is that they'll have to bring in new skill sets."

"We are excited about this year's recruiting class," Fox said. "We think they will be key contributors to our team's success this season."