

Agg Track Team Loses Ten Men

One of the great Aggie track teams of all time, which finished first in the SWC track and field meet held Saturday in Fort Worth under terrible conditions, will be dealt a severe blow by graduation.

Besides losing Bobby Ragsdale, team captain and high point man in the conference meet, and Darrow Hooper, Olympic runner-up in the shot put and three times conference champ in both shot and discus, several other senior point-makers competed for the last time.

James Baker, conference 440 dash champ and member of the mile relay team, has run his last race for A&M. Carol Libby, another member of the mile relay quartet, has also completed his eligibility.

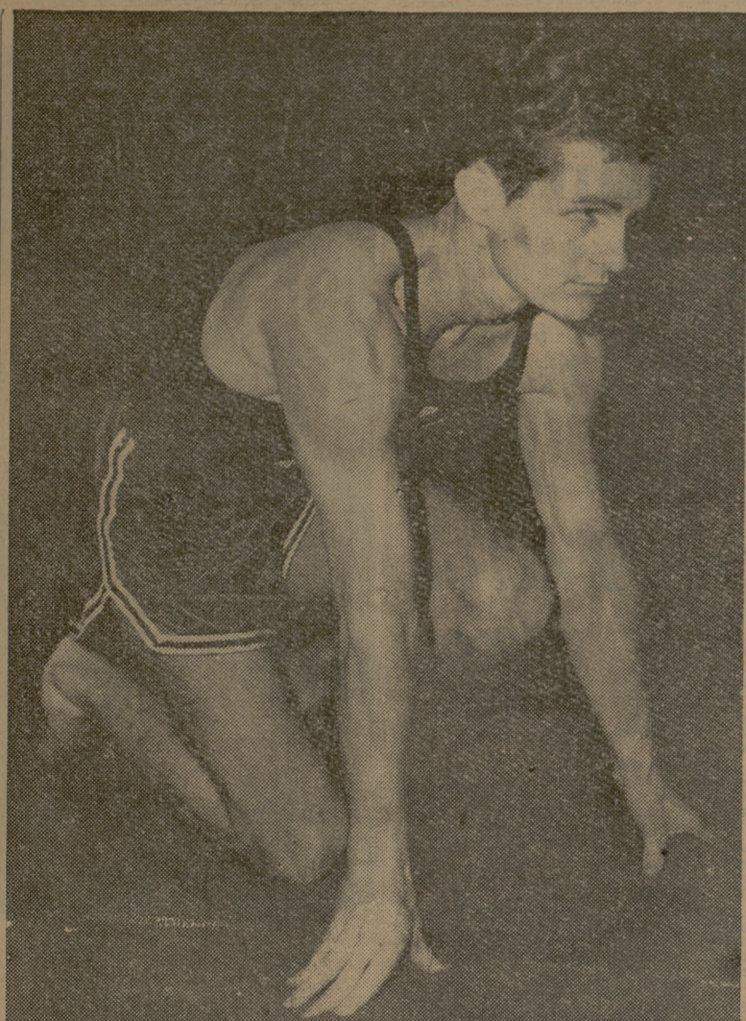
Both Malcolm Marks, SWC pole vault winner, and Glenn Spradlin, runner-up in the event, are seniors.

Roy Dollar, who finished fourth in the javelin, is the only man in that event that won't be back next year.

Charles Hudgins, runner-up to the Aggies' Dale DeRouen in the one mile run and fifth place winner in the two mile run, is the senior among the distance runners.

Bill Stalter, third in the broad jump event and fifth in the 220 yard dash, will also be lost for next year.

Edwin Wilmsen, only Aggie to earn points in the conference 880 yard run by placing fifth, is the only senior in that event.



James Baker
Despite Rain Made 50.2 Seconds



Bobby Ragsdale
Runs . . . Jumps . . . Almost Flies



Darrow Hooper
Three Shot Puts . . . Three Championships

Baker Ran One of Best 440 Records in Nation

James Baker holds one of the best times in the nation in the 440 yard dash, with a 47.6 mark being posted early in the season.

Baker was undefeated during the season in the event, although the mile relay team, of which he was a member, finished second in the SWC meet behind a surprising SMU Mustang team.

In his specialty, however, Baker ran through mud and rain to win

the 440 yard dash event in the conference meet with a time of 50.2, which was very good, considering the conditions.

In the mile relay event, Baker started the anchor lap several yards behind TCU's Tom Rogers. He passed Rogers, but was unable to beat off the challenge of Bobby Crookh of SMU, who hit the tape a couple of strides ahead of Baker.

Ragsdale Finishes Track Life as Star

When Bobby Ragsdale finished his final event in the SWC track and field meet Saturday in Fort Worth, the lid was closed on one of the most amazing track careers in Aggie track annals.

Coming to Aggieland unheralded and virtually unknown, Ragsdale developed into one of the nations leading broadjumpers and low hurdlers. He ranks among the leaders in the broad jump, with a 25 feet, 1/2 inch leap, and in the low hurdles with a time of 22.6.

In the conference track meet, in which he was conceded an excellent chance to break the oldest record on the books, the weather ruined his chances and he won the broad jump with a 23 feet, 3 1/2 inch leap, more than a foot under the 20 year old record of 24 feet, 9 3/4 inches.

Ragsdale also won the 220 yard low hurdles in the time of 23.6, which was a full second under his best time.

Finishing in a tie for high point honors with Charles Thomas of Texas with 15 1/2 points, Ragsdale gained the rest of his points with a second place in the 100 yard dash, and competed as a member of the third place Aggie sprint relay team.



Glenn Spradlin
Second to One



Bill Pratt
One of Unheralded Stalwarts

Pratt, Spradlin Not Disgraced In Second Spot

Glenn Spradlin and Dan Pratt are two Aggie seniors who have been in the rather unfortunate position of being on the same team with really great track performers.

Pratt was second to Darrow Hooper in the shot and discus in most meets during the past season, although sophomore Bobby Gross edged him in the conference meet in both events.

Spradlin has competed under the same circumstances in the pole vault, with teammate Malcolm Marks posting a couple of leaps at 14 feet or better.

Spradlin found that his leaps of 13 feet, 6 inches, ordinarily good enough to win the event in normal SWC years, turned out to be good for second place behind the soaring Marks.

Hooper Wins Three SWC Championships

When Aggie Track Coach Andy Anderson watched Darrow Hooper finish his track eligibility in the conference meet at Fort Worth, he must have felt like he was losing money in the bank.

Rarely has any track coach anywhere had an athlete who could be counted on as a double winner on any given Saturday, but Hooper

was a competitor in that category for three years.

Three times winner in shot and discus in the Texas, Kansas and Drake relays, Hooper matched that performance in the SWC, setting a new shot record for three straight years. He also set the present discus record of 170 feet in his junior year.

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