



FROM THE

Sidelines

By TEX ROGERS

Randy's On His Way With Record In Sight

Randy Matson, A&M's current claim to fame, is now in Tokyo grooming himself for the 1964 Olympics. But the big Aggie isn't going into competition a unheard-of greenhorn. Randy has been making eyes bulge and competitor's confidence fade into sheer embarrassment ever since his arrival to the land of the setting sun.

Most of the Olympic shot putters, once they see the Aggie at work, wish they never made the trip. A comparison is like the city slicker going to a rodeo in top hat and tails. He feels out of place.

Matson has almost taken the hearts of a good many coaches and athletes. The other day he pushed the 16-pound sphere 65-1 1/2 in practice, bringing gasps of disbelief from a crowd of onlookers. This could be a sign of a supreme effort from the 6-7, 250-pound 19-year-old. Randy always says he is at least a foot behind his best in practice, and that he never reaches a good distance until competition.

Payton Jordan, Stanford coach and Olympic instructor, is so impressed with the giant's growth, performance and improvement within the last year that he says Matson has no limit. Jordan thinks Randy will go on and beat the current record holder, Dallas Long, within the next two years.

When you say Randy will beat Long, that automatically includes owning the best shot put performance ever.

One has to admit that Matson may well be on his way to being the best. First, you have to look at his growth during the past year. When Randy first came to Aggieland in the fall of 1963, he weighed 225 pounds. One year later he tips the scales at 250.

Also, he has gotten stronger as he matured. With a special weight program set up by Emil Mamaliga of A&M's Department of Health and Physical Education Randy not only put on weight but developed a lot of brawn to go with it. Only this summer he had an informal weightlifting contest in Abilene with Roger Orell, brilliant weight man from ACC, and bench pressed 340 pounds.

Matson's improvement in one year has been almost incomparable. From 60-6 in June, 1963 to 64-11 in June, 1964 is quite a step. On top of that, Randy broke Long's national collegiate frosh shot record of 63-7 early in the spring with a 64-10 1/2 effort. The Aggie is over a foot in front of Long at a comparative age.

Jordan is so enthusiastic about Matson that he says:

"There's never been a shot putter with Randy's potential. This is no reflection on the great ones who preceded him . . . guys like Parry O'Brian and Long. They were great athletes and still are. But they couldn't match all of the qualities which Matson offers."

So, when Randy steps into the ring at Tokyo, somewhere around midnight Texas time, all his qualities will be pushed to the fore, along with a distance that should be his best ever.

Hungry Aggies Meet Starved USC; Cadets Want Win, Trojans Revenge

Still looking for its first win of the season, a hungry bunch of Aggies will meet a team that may be even more hungry than they when A&M faces the Southern California Trojans in Los Angeles' Memorial Stadium Saturday.

Although Coach Hank Foldberg's Maroons have gone down three times in succession, Coach John MacKay's men will be starving for revenge of the 17-7 upset handed USC last Saturday by Michigan State.

That little upset sailed the Trojans from the nation's number two ranking and completely out of the top 10 down to the fifteenth spot. Naturally USC will be trying to show they are better than their lowly fifteenth rating.

So, what more appropriate Saturday is there for the Trojans to prove their worth?

Aggie plans are, however, to verify that USC is just another football team and in the process pick up a win.

Foldberg has indicated there will be no changes in the starting line this week, following a 16-12 Aggie loss to Texas Tech.

Handball Club Schedules Tourney

An open handball tournament will be sponsored by the A&M Handball Club in DeWare Field House, beginning Wednesday. The single-elimination event will be open to A&M students and faculty.

Persons interested in entering the competition may contact club officers or fill out an entry blank located at the handball bulletin board upstairs in DeWare Field House.

Entrants may also contact Gene Evans, club sponsor, or the Department of Modern Language, said Joe DePascual, Handball Club vice president.

In a recent meeting, Handball Club officers elected for 1964-65 were Bill Altman, president; DePascual, vice-president; and Hector Diaz, secretary-treasurer.

DePascual told The Battalion that contestants will be notified through the mail on pairings and time of matches.

The A&M coach did express some concern over the USC offensive attack, and elaborated on the defensive problem of stopping it.

"We have seen all of the USC game films and they present a different problem in each game," Foldberg said.

"They have a good variety of plays, they throw well, have a balanced attack with good speed. Their quarterback is a good passer and can throw either the long or short pass. Mike Garrett (offensive halfback) has good speed."

Foldberg was speaking of two mainstays in the Trojan offensive attack when he mentioned quarterback Craig Fertig and halfback Mike Garrett. Both boys provided the punch in USC's 40-14 whalloping of number one Oklahoma two weeks ago.

Garrett, a 178-pound crash runner, is currently eighth in the nation among collegiate rushers with 276 yards in 63 carries for a 4.2 average.

Fertig, who will be doing battle for passing honors with Aggie quarterback Dan McIlhany, is the leading Trojan chucker with 391 yards in 26 completions for a .426 average.

Strangely enough, Fertig ranks twenty-third among the country's passers, while McIlhany ranks twenty-second with 353 yards in 26 completions for a .464 mark.

Foldberg said that USC "will probably mix it up on offense."

"We are trying to prepare to stop what they do best," he said. "But that could be hard due to their variety of attack."

What about the USC loss to Michigan State?

"They were not as successful against Michigan State as they were against Oklahoma. Michigan had a pretty good football team and they came up with the key plays to keep the ball and score."

The coach reported that the Tech game injuries were not bad enough to sideline any player this week. Marvin Dawkins and Yancy Bounds suffered some leg bruises while offensive tackle Waylon Ward came out with an injured shoulder.



DEFENSIVE MAINSTAY MIKE PITMAN . . . halfback to ward off USC aerial attempts Saturday.

Starting Lineups

OFFENSE					
	Wt.	Pos.	Texas A&M	Wt.	
Southern California					
Dave Moton	200	LE	Billy Uzzell	193	
Bob Svihus	240	LT	Waylon Ward	221	
Frank Lopez	215	LG	Yancy Bounds	215	
Paul Johnson	200	CG	Gary Kovar	201	
Bill Fick	206	RC	Ronney Moore	218	
Chuck Arrobio	230	RT	Ray Gene Hinze	221	
John Thomas	205	RE	John Brotherton	212	
Craig Fertig	185	QB	Dan McIlhany	187	
Mike Garrett	178	LH	Jim Stabler	187	
Rod Sherman	185	RH	Dan Westerfield	181	
Ron Heller	198	FB	Budgie Ford	186	

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