

The Battalion

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400

Sweetheart Gives Aggies Valentine

TU boys aren't worth the time. (I think they're all insane!)

The only thing that Rice has got is a lot of brains. Hogs belong in pens; the Raiders are too coarse; And as for SMU boys—I'd rather date their horse! Those Waco boys are tricky with that Baylor Line. So I ask you, Aggies all — "Will you be my Valentine?"

—Kathi Austin



By GARY SHERER
Battalion Sports Editor

Randy Matson, A&M's world record-holding shot putter, added two more honors to his already long list over the weekend while competing in the Fort Worth Indoor Games and the Dallas Indoor Meet.

The 21-year-old junior from Pampa bettered his world outdoor mark of 70, feet 7 1/4 inches Saturday night, when he tossed the 16-pound sphere 70 feet, 7 1/2 inches and thrilled a crowd of 6,800 at the Dallas meet.

The night before, he had accomplished 69 feet, 2 inches at Fort Worth. So in two nights of competition, he threw the shot further than any other man has done — indoor or outdoors — and topped 70 feet for the second time in three years.

After this weekend's performance, observers cannot predict just how far the 6-5, 260-pound athlete will reach by the '68 Olympic

Games.

"I haven't set any length for myself," Matson said. "I'm just going to keep throwing the best I can." His best so far is nearly three feet further than any other

A&M Debate Team Travels To SFA For Tournament

The Texas A&M debate team, winning 60 per cent of its matches, will whip into Southwest Conference tournament form this weekend at a Stephen F. Austin College meet in Nacogdoches.

The team competes in SWC circles at Texas Tech Feb. 24-25.

"The boys are doing pretty well now," Debate Director Carl Kell said. "Their success at Abilene Christian last weekend showed lots of promise."

Teams of Robert Peek of Jacksboro and James Byrd of Houston, David Maddox of College Station and Ron Hinds of Midland won 11 of 15 matches at ACC for high bracket finishes. Both teams had 5-1 records in preliminaries.

Maddox and Hinds defeated Texas, 3-0, in the quarterfinals and went down to Wichita State, 3-0, in the semifinals. Peek and Byrd lost to Oklahoma on a 2-1 decision in the quarterfinals.

Both teams bested Wichita State in prelims. Maddox and Hinds posted wins over Texas, Baylor, North Texas, McMurray, East Texas, Midwestern, Colorado State and Arlington State.

Campus Blackout Caused By Rats

A rat in a transformer plunged a portion of the Texas A&M campus into darkness Friday night and short-circuited the second half of the Johnny Mathis Show at White Coliseum.

Mathis had barely crooned a song when the power failed in the coliseum. Caught off guard, the singer confided to the audience of 8,000 that such a thing had never happened to him before.

Consolidated Seniors Plan Opening Of Three-Act Play

The senior class of A&M Consolidated High School will stage a three-act play entitled "Everyone Loves Opal," Thursday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium.

The play was written by John Patrick and produced off Broadway in 1961. The work has been subtitled, "A Prank in Three Acts." Patrick is the author of another well known play, "The Curious Savage."

Mrs. Jan Austin, director of the A&M Consolidated production, describes the play as one concerning a little old lady who peddles junk

and lives in a junk yard. She loves the world and everyone in the world loves her.

The plot thickens when three gangsters try to move in on her business. She thinks that they love her, just like everyone else in the world. In the end, Opal's unflinching love and overwhelming trust prove to be the downfall of the three gangsters.

Mrs. Austin is double casting

Weather

Wednesday—Partly cloudy to cloudy with scattered thunder storms late afternoon, winds southerly 10 to 20, maximum temperature 79, low morning temperature 49.

Thursday—Cloudy with intermittent rain or drizzle becoming partly cloudy to clear late Thursday, winds northerly 15 to 25, low temperature 37, high 51.

Mathis Continues Show Despite Power Failure

By BOB BORDERS
Amusement Editor

Johnny Mathis came to A&M last night and played to a near-capacity crowd in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The show could have been one of the better Town Hall attractions if it had not been for a campus-wide power failure which plunged the auditorium into total darkness shortly into the second half of the performance.

Mathis was obviously caught off guard, as was everyone else in the coliseum. He said this had never happened to him before.

After the lights had gone out and he had finished his song, he went onstage for a few seconds.

"They're trying to remedy the situation," he said, coming back onstage.

"I know A&M will come through . . . sometime tonight. I'll just do what I can do for as long as I can do it," he added.

Then came perhaps the best

part of the performance, if you were fortunate enough to have front row seats.

Of course the orchestra was missed, but the Mathis style was never better, accompanied here and there only occasionally by a piano and sometimes a bass.

Flashlights threw the only light on the performer, casting giant shadows on the wall behind.

Finally, a generator was started, and the coliseum audio system became operable. The quality was poor, but at least everybody could hear.

The Mathis singers came on for a second time and did a short medley of songs.

When this was over Mathis came back onstage and explained that they would have to end the show because they were doing a number of one-night stands and they had to get to Austin for a show Wednesday night.

Many of the audience were incensed when the lights came back

on and Mathis would not continue the show.

His actions were, however, completely understandable considering the circumstances.

9 Students To Attend Dallas Meet

Nine Student Education Association chapter members at Texas A&M have been named to attend the TSEA state convention in Dallas March 2-4.

A&M chapter representatives will be Don Houston of Dallas, president; Richard Moreno, vice president; and Randall Myers of Houston; Janice Floyd of Navasota, Pat Krynski and Barbara Tobias of Bryan, Alice Liles of Rosenberg, Charles Johns of Pittsburg and Raoul Jiura of Arlington.

Alternate will be freshman Milton Reichel of Houston.

The TSEA convention will elect state officers and vote on several amendments, according to Houston.

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Matson Tops 70 Feet In Dallas Indoor Meet

man has reached in this event.

Matson noted that he is in good shape for this point in the season, but added he can't reach his best throwing shape until he competes in a few more meets.

As he does get into better shape, it will be interesting to see just how far he throws this summer. Coach Charley Thomas has predicted that Matson will reach 71 or 72 feet this year but, that is as far as Thomas will safely predict.

"The loss did make a difference in my throwing and in my training," Matson said when discussing his loss to Neil Steinhauer, the Oregon shot putter who bested Matson earlier this year.

"I expect to throw against him (Steinhauer) the weekend after the Southwest Conference meet," Matson said, when asked about their next meeting. The SWC meet will be May 4-5 at Dallas, while the encounter that Matson referred to will be the Los Angeles Coliseum Meet on May 11-12.

Saturday night, Matson had throws of 68-3, 68-5, 66-9 1/4, 65-10 1/4 and 66-5 1/4 before he hit 70-plus on his last effort.

This was not the first time this year that his last throw had been his best.

"It's unusual; in the past I've usually made my best throw on the first or second toss," Matson said as he discussed his efforts so far this year.

A bursitis condition in his knee, which had bothered him in May of 1965 when he set his outdoor record, has not given him too much trouble thus far this year. He added that the knee still makes itself known, but he doesn't feel it will bother him when competing.

Matson's next competition will be here at College Station when he will compete in a SWC match with Baylor. The match will be the first meet for the Aggie track team and this will be the main concern as there is not much competition expected for Matson.

The marks Matson reached probably won't be recognized as world records, as Matson used an outdoor shot. He elected to use the different ball, as the throws were made on dirt in both matches.

"There really is no record officially indoors," Matson said. He pointed out that because of the difference in indoor and outdoor balls, the outdoor marks are the only official marks at this time.

Some observers say that the wind makes a difference outdoors. This is only true in relation to the participant, Matson added, as the ball is definitely not affected by the blowing wind.

Matson feels that he will work with the weights more, as well as throw in practice in his preparation for his upcoming events.

With the increased preparedness planned by Matson, it follows that the A&M giant will be able to reach the predicted distances that his coach has set for him.



RANDY MATSON

The 6-5 junior from Pampa topped the seventy-foot mark in the shotput for the second time in three years Saturday night at the Dallas Indoor Track and Field Meet.

2-Alarmer Razes Ag Vets' Cottage

By DONALD R. JANACEK
Battalion Special Writer

Two A&M students fell victim to a fire Saturday night as their rented cottage was completely destroyed.

Thomas L. Godwin of Granbury and Gary W. Crouch of San Benito were away at the time of the fire.

The cottage was on the Robert B. Taylor property located seven miles south of College Station on Highway 6.

Neighbors noticed the fire and notified the Taylors at 8:25 and they immediately called the College Station Fire Department. When the College Station unit arrived, firemen saw that they could not handle the fire alone and called for assistance from the Bryan Fire Department which arrived at 9:15.

Before the two units were able to control the blaze, it had spread to another building, a dog house.

Firemen were not able to determine the exact cause of the fire. It is estimated that the two men, who are second year veterinarian students, lost several hundred dollars worth of books alone, in addition to their personal belongings.

This was the second time in recent months that A&M students

were struck by fire. In December, several foreign students who were working on their doctors degree lost all of their possessions, including a portion of their dissertation papers, in a fire which swept their apartment building in North College Station.

EE Dept. Given \$18,595 Grant By Sandia Corp.

An \$18,595 Sandia Corp. grant has been awarded to the Electrical Engineering Department, announced Engineering Dean Fred J. Benson.

The one-year grant is for research associated with a Position Monitoring System, explained Professor John S. Denison, acting department head.

Co-principal investigators will be Dr. M. G. Rekoft Jr. and Dr. H. M. Barnard, electrical engineering professors. Prof. Clifford R. Ray and a graduate student will be associated with Drs. Rekoft and Barnard on the project.



VETS' COTTAGE BURNS

Tom Godwin and Gary Crouch lost all their books and personal belongings when a fire razed their rented quarters.



MATHIS SINGS



BACKSTAGE



IN SPOTLIGHT