

Baseball Commissioner Given Final Authority By Players

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—The commissioner of baseball was accepted by the Major League Players' Association Wednesday as the final authority for a two-year period in settling any disputes which may arise between the players and the 20 major league clubs.

At a day-long meeting in Miami, the association also agreed to a joint study involving "pos-

sible alternatives to the reserve clause" and a joint study on "the length of the championship season."

The study of the reserve clause, which presently binds a player to the club with which he is under contract, is to be completed prior to Dec. 31, 1969—the termination date of the player-owner agreement ratified Wednesday.

The study of the length of the

season is to be finished prior to the drawing up of the preliminary schedules for 1969.

Acceptance of the commissioner, now William D. Eckert, to serve as the adjudicator in player-management disputes followed earlier disagreement. The players' association previously questioned his rule as an impartial judge, since the commissioner is selected by the owners without a player voice.



ART ADAMSON
Swimming



OMAR SMITH
Tennis

Aggie Tracksters Host Meet Friday

By JOHN PLATZER
Coach Charley Thomas' Aggie track team will kick off its season after a week's delay Friday afternoon with a triangular meet against Rice and Texas University in Kyle Field.

The Aggie cindermen were originally scheduled to begin their year with a dual meet in Waco against Baylor last Saturday. The match with Baylor, a co-favorite for the Southwest Conference track championship this season, was cancelled because of bad weather, however, and will not be re-scheduled.

FIELD EVENTS for the Friday meet will begin at 3 p.m. with the running events scheduled to follow at 3:30.

Thomas has been encouraged by the performance of the squad thus far but has not had a chance to make a real evaluation.

Among the freshmen Thomas is counting on the most are runner Curtis Mills, discus thrower Kelvin Korver and high jumper Rocky Woods.

Composing A&M's 440-yard relay team for the meet will be Tom Cilio, Mills, Scotty Hendricks and Jack Abbott while Mike Boyd, David Dolton, Jack White and Mills will make up the mile relay squad.

THE WEIGHT events could once again prove to be the strong point of the Aggie team. Sophomore Ronny Lightfoot, who threw the shot 56-8 in Fort Worth earlier in the year, and Senior George Resley will throw the shot.

Other Aggie strong points could be in the hurdles with Abbott, Deward Stong and Steve O'Neal entered in the 120-yard high and Richard Ball in the 440-yard hurdles. Martin Rollins, a senior from Alabama, could give A&M points in the pole vault.

Rice is expected to be the class of the conference this season along with Baylor while Texas is expected to compete with the Aggies for the runner-up spot.

The sprints and relays seem to be Rice's strong points while Texas should get most of its points in the distance races, high jump, broad jump and javelin.

SWIMMING
Still riding high with a 62-51 win over John Brown University of Arkansas, the Aggie swimming team of Coach Art Adamson takes on perennial conference champion Southern Methodist University Saturday at 3 p.m. in P. L. Downs Natatorium.

THE METHODISTS have completely dominated the conference swimming picture the past decade winning the last 11 championships in a row. SMU has taken the number one spot in the sport 13 of the 36 times there has been conference competition.

The Aggies were the last team

to break in on the SMU streak winning the 1956 championship in Austin, Texas finished second that year with SMU third.

Swimming for the Aggies Saturday will be Glenn Draper, Malcomb French, Steve Henry, James Jeter, Lawrence Jones, Gregory Smith and Tom Sparks.

ALSO competing for the Aggies will be Ronnie Suttle, Bob Mathews, Stephen Ash, Colin Dunn, Jonathan Beall, Ropo Beltran, Jerry Deutch and David George.

Eddie Grant, John Greenhut, Tommy Holder, Larry Linn, Mike O'Brien, Henry Paup and Bill Stulken will also swim for A&M.

In Tuesday's win over John Brown, Holder paced the Aggies individually with 8 points on a first in the 200-yard free-style and a second in the 100-yard free-style.

A&M's relay teams took first in both the 400 medley and the 400-yard free-style which made the difference in the match.

First were also picked up in the 50-yard free-style by Sparks and in the 200-yard breaststroke by Linn for the Aggies.

THE VICTORY over John Brown gives Adamson's swimmers a 3-2 mark for the season with other wins over Rice and Eastern New Mexico and losses to Texas Tech and Arlington State.

TENNIS
Louisiana and East Texas will be the site of tennis action this weekend for Coach Omar Smith's Aggies. They will take on Lamar Tech in Beaumont Friday and then travel on to play Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge Saturday.

THE AGGIES were defeated by the University of Houston Saturday in Houston 7-2. Salvaging the A&M wins were Jon Ragland and senior captain Joe Tillery.

Other Aggie tennis players are Bruce Crumley, Marcus Beleck, Mike Hickey and Jerry Oliver.

Smith considers this to be a rebuilding year for the Aggies even though he also thinks it is a more solid team than last season's with good prospects.

"As a whole they have worked harder and progressed more than any group we've had in quite some time," he said.

GOLF
Coach Henry Ransom's Aggie golfers will open their year on the road this weekend also.

THE OPENING will be at the Fort Worth Recreational Tournament where A&M picked up first places in both the freshmen and varsity divisions last year.

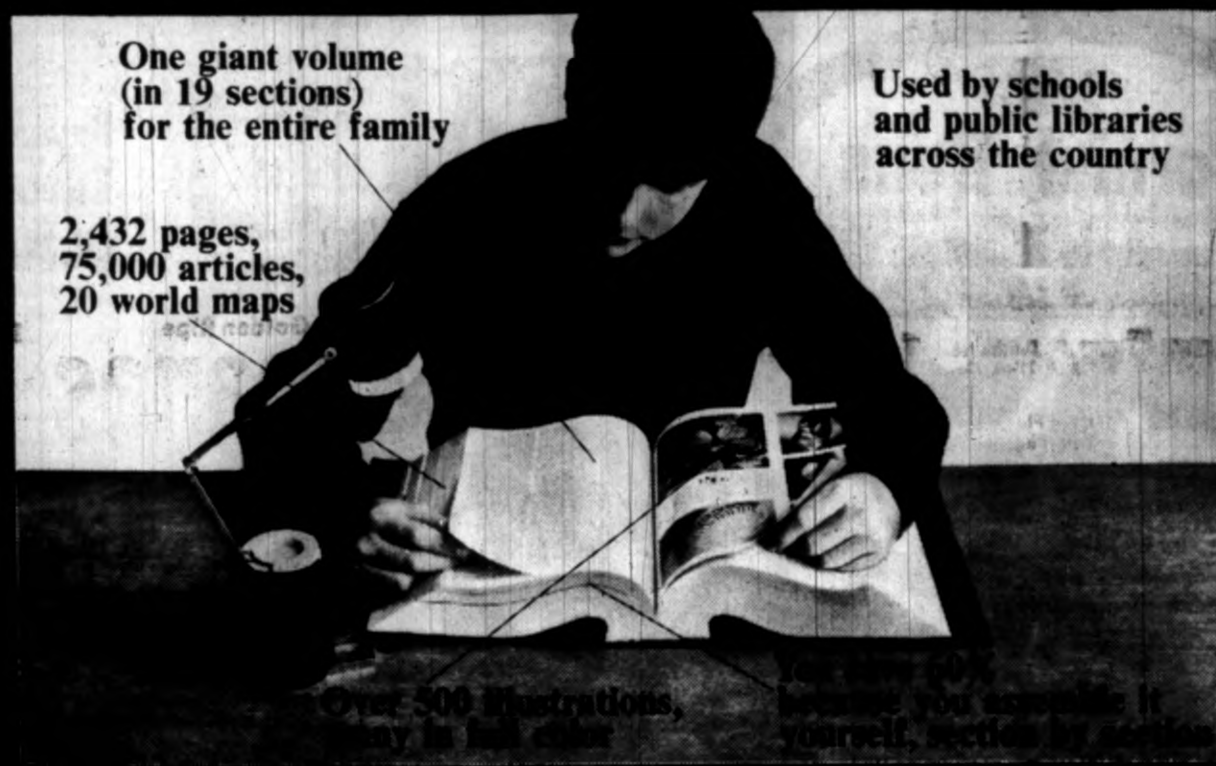
Ransom's team hopes to continue the performance that took them to the conference championship last season in one of the league's biggest about faces.

A&M finished in last place in SWC competition in 1966 with a 14½-27½ mark before winning the title last year with a 32½-9½ record.

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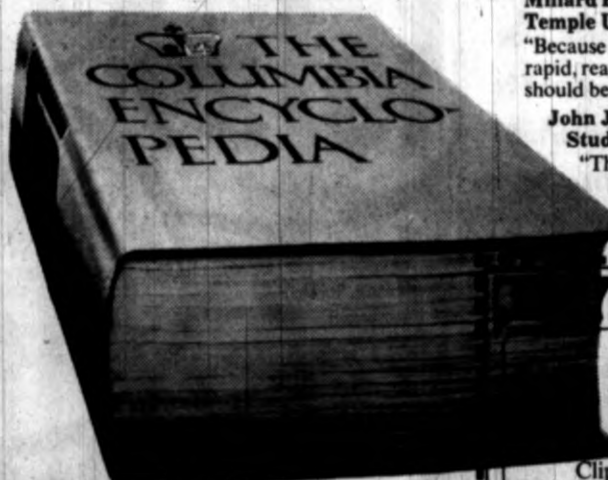
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MALONEY OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

Jim Maloney, left, Cincinnati Reds pitcher who has not come to terms with the club, visits with Reds pitcher Mily Pappas on a stop at the Red's training camp at Tampa. Maloney was a fifteen-game winner last season and Pappas was credited with 16. (AP Wirephoto)



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