

Sports Desk



Scheduling By Decree

by John Platzer

What a dull, dreary world this would be without the University of Houston!

Houston, you see, is not an ordinary college (many people argue with good reason that it is not a college at all, but that is beside the point).

Most collegiate basketball teams use the same old brownish color basketballs in warmup that they use in the games. Not the Cougars! (They use red, white and blue basketballs in their warmup drills).

Most collegiate basketball teams play in an arena they can call their own. Not Houston! (They play in a city high school gym called Delmar).

Most colleges try to schedule athletic contests in the old-fashioned way of one athletic director getting in touch with another one. Not the Coogs! (They tried to schedule A&M through the newspapers last year).

Most colleges have coaches who tell their players what to do instead of players who tell the coaches what to do. Does Houston?

Such qualities as these are known by many names such as colorful, flashy, or showy. The phrase that fits best, however, is bush league.

The University of Houston is like a man in quicksand, sinking to lower and lower depths with no bottom in sight.

They came very close to the bottom the other day when Rep. Bill Swanson introduced a bill in the Texas legislature to MAKE Texas, Texas Tech and A&M play Houston in athletic contests.

If it weren't so ridiculous (and dangerous), it would be funny.

There are many things which this state's colleges need, but one of them is not governmental interference in the athletic program. College athletics must be kept in the hands of such qualified and capable men as Gene Stallings and Darrell Royal and not be given to some legislator who doesn't know a screen pass from a "red-dog."

Swanson said that he is repeatedly asked why "in all sports, but more especially in football and basketball, the four state schools are not competing with each other?"

Well now, (isn't) that the University of Houston that the Aggies have played 18 times in the last 10 years in basketball and 7 times during the same period in football?

Was that some other team posing as the fearful "Big Red" that the Aggie basketball team played in Delmar this year?

Who was that that Texas led off their football schedule with this season?

Swanson also said that the Astrodome (where Houston plays its home football games) would be a great drawing card for games with A&M and Texas.

This is very nice (for UH), but don't you think that the other schools may want to play on their own fields every once in a while? Kyle Field may not be the Astrodome, but it is home.

Another of Swanson's prize words of wisdom is that the three colleges (A&M, Tech and Texas), would have three open dates not already committed by 1971 and should be able to fit UH into their schedules.

Either the Houston representative failed to check A&M's future football schedules or has inside word that the NCAA is going to a regular eleven-game season.

The Aggies already have 10 games scheduled for the 1969, 1970, 1971 and 1972 seasons.

The very thought of such a bill even being introduced is enough to make allies out of A&M and Texas.

Maybe we should have a law against a team running up a 100-6 score against an outclassed opponent.

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Top Schoolboy Tracksters Here Today

By RICHARD CAMPBELL
Kyle Field will be the scene Friday afternoon and night of the first Annual College Station Relays as 24 of the top flight track teams clash to decide the initial winner.

The preliminaries begin at 11:30 a.m. with the finals to start in the field events at 3 p.m. The running finals will begin at 7 p.m. immediately following the presentation of awards to the winners of the field events.

The entry list for the meet includes Bryan, A&M Consolidated, Kemp, Brenham, Aldine, Bay City, Conroe, Cypress-Fairbanks, Deer Park, Lufkin Dunbar, Del Valle, Lubbock Estacado, Beaumont French, Austin Johnson, Lamar Consolidated, Livingston, Spring Branch Memorial, Marlin, Aldine MacArthur, Beaumont South Park, Orange, Pasadena Rayburn, Wharton, and West Orange.

Memorial is tabbed as the preliminary favorite but will be challenged by strong teams from Bay City, Conroe, Lufkin Dunbar, and Deer Park.

Lufkin is headed by swift Marvin Mills, younger brother of A&M's star quartermiler Curtis Mills, and their 440-yard relay unit has logged a fast 41.9. One of the nation's top hurdlers, Donnie Rogers of Bay City, will provide most of the action in the 120-yard highs. He has a 13.7 time to his credit already and was an All-American high school performer last year.

Brenham's Jack Smith will provide most of the fireworks in the sprints. He is the defending Class AAA 100-yard dash champion and has a 9.6 to his credit. Conroe boasts the state's top pole vaulter in David Roberts, who has vaulted 15'8", two inches higher than the best Southwest Conference mark this season.

Gary Butler of Conroe is also the best discus thrower in the schoolboy ranks this year. He has heaved the discus 190'4" and has



MILE SPECIALIST
Sammy Skinner of Deer Park will be one of the top milers at the first College Station high school track meet set for today at Kyle Field. Skinner has a best time in the mile of 4:20.



880 STAR
Dennis O'Brien of Houston Memorial High School is one of the many schoolboy track stars who will compete in Kyle Field tonight. O'Brien has a best time of 1:54.8 in the 880.

also tossed the shot 58'8" for one of the top marks in that event. The Tigers also have a strong relay troupe with a 42.5 in the sprint relay and a 3:19 in the mile relay.

Admission is one dollar for adults and fifty cents for children.

Chess Committee Sets Tournament

The Texas A&M spring chess championship will be held Saturday and Sunday in the Memorial Student Center, announced Dave Line, Chess Committee chairman.

Line noted that tournament registration begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, with the first round scheduled for 9 a.m.

"The winner of the four-man tournament, open to all A&M students and faculty members will receive a handsome trophy," Line noted, "and will be recognized as the chess champion of Texas A&M for the spring semester of 1969."

Line also noted that there will be other prizes for the contestants, including a "nice" semi-precious trophy and numerous others.

Entry fee for the tournament is one dollar, Line pointed out, and all entry fees will accrue toward the prize fund. Chess sets for the tournament, he added, will be furnished by the committee.

DOG BETTING GAINS
DENVER (AP) — Wagering at Colorado's four greyhound racing tracks jumped to \$52.6 million last year from \$28.5 million in 1966.

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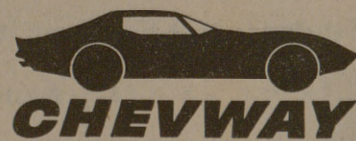
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