


Tracksters Travel To Drake

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By RICHARD CAMPBELL
The Texas A&M track team, accompanied by Coach Charlie Thomas, invades Iowa Friday and Saturday seeking points in the star-studded Drake Relays, the last of the three big track meets in the Midwest.

Coach Thomas and 14 tracksters will travel to Des Moines Thursday looking for some fine individual performances. Rockie Woods, the runner-up in the 100-yard dash last week in the Kansas Relays in 9.4, is a threat and Curtis Mills, with a 47.0 to his credit, has a good chance in the 440-yard dash. The 440 is a special event and if Mills does compete in it, Jack Abbott will take his place on the 880-yard relay unit for A&M.

Two other Aggies, John Heffner and Paul Shimon, will run in a special marathon race of 26 miles, 550 yards. Coach Thomas said that the race would help both boys in the three-mile race in the Southwest Conference Meet at Waco in two weeks.

A&M's 440-yard relay team

dropped the baton in both the Texas and Kansas Relays. Thomas feels that his team has the speed to run a fast race if they can hold on to the baton.

Seven of the SWC teams will be in Des Moines this weekend with the eighth, Texas Tech, participating in the Colorado Relays. Rice, the only SWC team to score a baton triumph in either the Texas or Kansas Relays, seeks a triple crown in the mile relay. They traveled the distance in 3:07.1 in Austin and then ran a 3:07.0 in Lawrence

last week. The Aggies' unit, composed of Steve Bancroft, Mike Boyd, Tony Munson, and Curtis Mills have logged a 3:10.0 this year and loom as an outside possibility.

Also a strong contender for the Aggies is weightman Ronnie Lightfoot, the SWC leader in both the shot (58-5½) and discus (171-5). Freshman Bubba Vincent will also participate in the discus for A&M.

A&M will also compete in another seldom-run event, the shuttle hurdle relay. Deward Strong,

Abbott, David Prince, and Woods will form the Aggie team.

Stan Curry of Baylor seems a safe bet to take the high jump and also put the Drake record of 6-10½ in jeopardy. He has jumped 6-11 this year. Recent improvements by its milers establishes SMU as a contender in the four-mile relay and Baylor in the distance medley, although neither rates as a serious threat to Kansas, anchored by Olympian Jim Ryun. The best SWC miler is Fred Cooper of Texas, the winner at Lawrence last week with a 4:08.8.

Aggie Baseballers At Rice For Weekend SWC Series

The Aggie baseballers move into Houston this weekend for a series with the Rice Owls still trying to shake loose from a team-wide batting slump.

Coach Tom Chandler's squad entered the season as the defending Southwest Conference batting champions but have fallen on bad times this year.

In posting a 13-7 season and 5-5 SWC mark, the Aggies have hit only .219 as a team. This places A&M fifth in the seven team league in hitting. Texas Christian is the top batting club in the SWC with a .304 team average.

Texas leads the SWC with an 11-0 record and has a chance of clinching the championship this

weekend when they play second-place Texas Tech (7-3) in Austin. TCU is currently in third place in the conference with a 7-5 record while Rice is tied with the Aggies at 5-5.

The Owls and Aggies square off in a doubleheader today and then come back with a single game Saturday. The first game today is scheduled for seven innings and began at 1 p.m. with the nine inning second game set to start immediately afterwards. The Saturday single game will begin at 2 p.m.

Rice has been paced by first baseman Dick Fuqua, who enters the game with the top individual batting average in the SWC. Fuqua is hitting .424 for the SWC season while Tech's Jerry Haggard is second at .410 and David Chalk of Texas is at .400.

As a team, Coach Doug Osburn's Owls have hit at a .232 mark in SWC games. Osburn is expected to start freshman Donnie Brogna in today's first game and then come back with junior David Ownby and sophomore southpaw Scott Wise.

Brogna shut out Texas Tech in his last start and enters the game with a 2-0 record while Ownby is 4-3 and Wise is 3-2. Wise pitched a non-hitter for 8½ innings against St. Thomas Tuesday and ended with a one-hit 7-0 victory.

Outside of Fuqua, the Owls get most of their offensive punch from outfielder Eddie Otwell and freshman third baseman David Hilton. Otwell is hitting .300 for the season while Hilton is at .275. Fuqua is hitting .319 on the year.

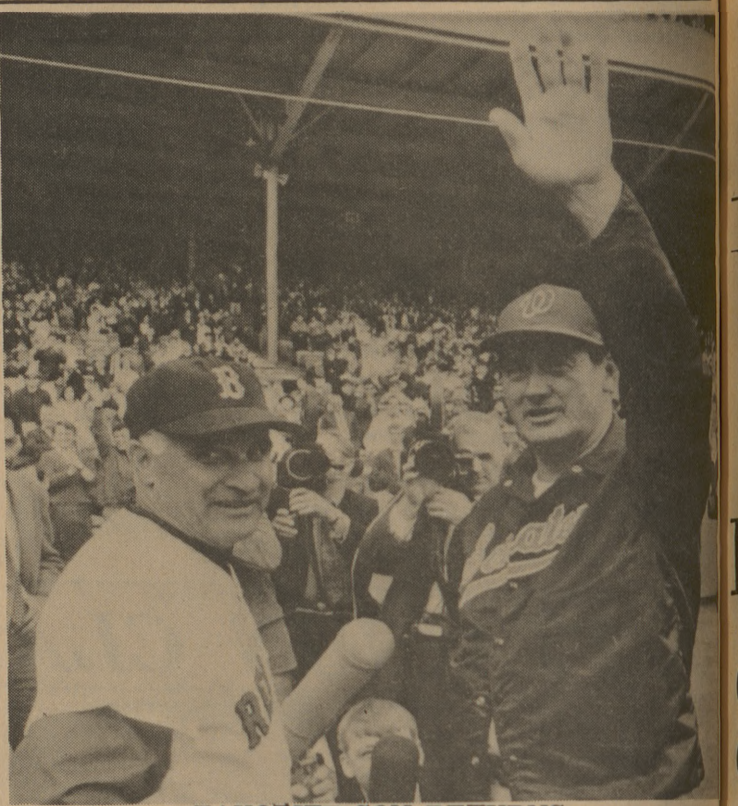
Boyd Hadaway and Bob Long are the only two Aggies hitting over .300 for the SWC season. Hadaway has a .344 mark while Long is at .343.

Coach Chandler is expected to start his top twosome of Doug Rau and Dave Benesh in two of the three games against Rice. Rau has composed a 2-1 record with a 1.47 earned-run average while Benesh is also 2-1 with a 1.71 ERA.

The rest of the A&M lineup is expected to be Billy Hodge, catcher; Hadaway, first; Pete Maida, second; Eddie Vaughn, third; Jim Raley, shortstop; and an outfield of Bob Arnold, Long and Dave Elmendorf.

The Aggies travel to Houston Tuesday afternoon for a 3 p.m. non-conference game against the University of Houston. A&M defeated Houston 5-4 earlier in the year at Kyle Field.

The baseball season comes to an end next weekend when A&M hosts arch-rival Texas on Kyle Field. The Aggies will play the Longhorns a doubleheader on Friday and come back with a single game Saturday.



FAVORITE SON RETURNS
Ted Williams, former Red Sox slugger and one of Boston's all-time sports heroes, returned to Fenway Park this week in the uniform of the enemy. Williams, now manager of the Washington Senators, leads his team against the Red Sox. He is shown waving to the crowd before the start of game as former teammate Bobby Doerr, now Red Sox coach, stands alongside. (AP Wirephoto)

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Intramural Roundup

Steve Holditch and Louis Adams of F-1 have advanced into the finals of Class A Intramural golf and will face either Squadron 2 or Squadron 11. Holditch and Adams have won five straight matches while Squadron 2 and Squadron 11 have each won four without a defeat.

Only three teams remain in the Class A tennis playoffs. Squadron 6 and F-1 will play Thursday to determine who will play in the championship against Squadron 4.

The top seven teams in Class A are bunched together with a total of 500 to 520 points. G-1 took over the lead by taking second in the swimming meet and G-1 is 5 points behind in second.

Class B tennis will not be counted for Intramural points this year. However, there will be a single elimination league and a single elimination doubles tournament. Medals will be awarded to the champions. Sign up at the Intramural Office by May 2.

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