

Mills Tells Kids Always 'Start Every Race To Win'

How do you explain the race of life to a group of kids who start out last?

One way is to have Texas A&M's world record track star Curtis Mills visit them and tell his philosophy—he starts every race to win.

Mills, the world's fastest man in the 440-yard dash with a 44.7 second run this summer, was an instant star at Camp JeGalHa near Huntsville and gave 100 boys and girls from the metropolitan poverty holes someone to remember as a friend.

The Texas A&M Agricultural Extension Service youth camp for ages 10-12 gives the kids three balanced meals a day, work projects, a nature appreciation and under-the-pines recreation.

One-hundred children of all races from Jefferson, Galveston and Harris County attend the Monday through Friday camp for eight weeks. A different group reports each week, selected by a committee made up of county agricultural agents and members of the local Community Action Committees of each county.

The camp was named by the staff using the first letters in the different county's names. It is located six miles west of Huntsville in deep pines off FM 1791. The Walker County facility is owned by the State Negro 4-H.

Mills ran, sang songs, signed autographs, ate, played and answered questions during his four-hour visit.

He was asked how he set the world record.

"I just try to win, not set a record," the Lufkin native told the youths. "If it takes a world record, then that's what I did."

Mills explained he didn't "smoke or drink and I want a good education. My school, Texas A&M, is the greatest in the world."

He noted he was about the age of most of the children in the camp when he started his track career.

"A neighbor girl bragged to me about beating the fellows in foot races. I decided if she could beat them, so could I. I made the track team."

During his Lufkin Dunbar High School career Mills won six trophies and 204 track medals. At A&M he has received five watches, three trophies "and I don't know how many medals."

The junior education major said his goal is to run in the 1972 Olympics in Germany and then play either professional football or baseball.

Boys attending the camp are instructed in use of hand tools. They make a wood tool box, paint it and receive a lock and basic hand tools to take back home.

The girls are taught basic sewing skills, including use of a sewing machine, and take a sewing kit home.

P. E. Ramirez, a native of

Tampico, Mexico, who now teaches Spanish and English at San Jacinto Junior College in Pasadena, is the camp director.

"We want the problem kids," Ramirez said. "We want the challenge and we give the children a challenge. They learn how they relate to others and everyone in his own way accomplishes something."

Shirley Shad, a Sam Houston State College home economics major from Alto Loma, said the girls in sewing classes make a blouse, learn how to press it, receive a short modeling lesson and wear the blouse home.

"Many, many girls have told me they had never received three meals a day. They find it hard to believe they can eat all they want," Miss Shad said.



THE WINNING TOUCH

Curtis Mills signs autographs for some of the youngsters who have not had the chance to run in a winning race in their lifetime. He related to them how it feels to hold the world's record in the 440-yard dash.

Hall Sweeps Meet In Ford GT-40

Jim Hall decided to do something that just isn't done at autocrosses. He brought his \$20,000 Ford GT-40 to the Texas A&M Sports Car Club "Airport Autocross 2" Sunday and won Top Time of the Day, averaging 46.481 mph.

The small car TTOD trophy went to Jim Ray in a borrowed Triumph TR-3, Ray averaged 45.558 mph.

An autocross is a parking lot type event where one car at a time is on the course, running against the clock. At other meets there are usually curbs, light poles, potted trees, and brick walls close to the courses. The A&M Sports Car Club has been fortunate in being able to use the runways at the A&M Research Annex west of town.

While autocrossing is not at all dangerous, the wide expanse of concrete at the annex allows a much larger margin of safety and a more enjoyable course. For this reason the club has a state wide reputation of putting on extremely high quality events.

The club will hold its bi-weekly meeting at Ralph's East Gate Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested is invited to attend or call 823-2101.

Trophy and class winners: Event Masters — Dick Goss and Alan Weckerling.

Modified and Top Time of the Day — Jim Hall, Dallas, Ford GT-40—46.170 MPH.

C Production — George Eby, Bryan, Lotus—45.900.

D Production — Wayne Gosnell, Bryan, Triumphs TR-4 — 40.139.

E Production and Small Car Top Time of the Day—Jim Ray, College Station, Triumphs. TR-3—45.558.

F Production—Alan Weckerling, College Station, Datsun 1600—41.632.

2. Mike Smalley—College Station, Triumph Spitfire—36.471.

2. Doug Ballentine, College Station, Mustang—39.163.

3. Ken Ford, College Station, Mustang—38.474.

Buggie—Roy Tribbey, Bryan, VW Buggie—42.110.

Small Cars Ladies—2. Jane Scott, College Station, Buggie—39.861.

Large Cars Ladies — Parsey Eby, Bryan, Lotus—41.258.

Convict In Trouble Given A New Start

Tommy Holland has been in trouble almost all of his life. He says his record is long. Today the taxpayers are supporting him—he's the property of the Texas Department of Corrections.

At 40, Holland knows when he leaves the big walls at Huntsville it had better be for the last time. He thinks he has one more chance.

Texas A&M University's Texas Engineering Extension Service, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Corrections, is helping to make the future a little brighter for hundreds of Tommy Hollands. Holland and 14 other inmates are students at TEES' Heavy Equipment Operator Training School.

A&M is training the inmates to return to the prison system and there to train other inmates.

The school started June 16 and will continue through Sept. 26.

Thirteen weeks of the training is at the A&M heavy equipment school near Easterwood Airport and two weeks of teacher training will be taught at Huntsville by a member of A&M's Vocational Teacher Education Division.

Two security guards, Sgt. Joe W. Thompson and Guard Tommy Lowery, accompany the convicts each morning from the main Huntsville prison. They are also members of the class.

The convicts receive just as much freedom as any other student who would take the course, Jones noted, except they are not allowed to leave the area alone.

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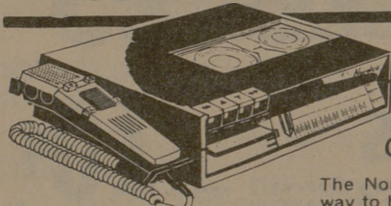
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