

Surprises give Aggies track win over ACC

By JOHN CURLY
Assistant Sports Editor
The A&M Track team flexed its muscles yesterday, and dominated a dual meet at Abilene Christian College, winning easily, 78-58.

The Aggies won nine of the 16 events, and the day wasn't without its surprises.

The strong showing of Rockie Woods and Donny Rogers in the 120 yard high hurdles against the hurdle-heavy Wildcats gave A&M a boost that was copied in several events to follow.

James Johnson, a San Antonio freshman who just recently joined the squad, won the long jump with a leap of 22'1 3/4". This is another event that the tough ACC tracksters are good in.

Bubba Vincent took second in the discus, throwing 148'7 1/2". Without this, Abilene would have swept the event.

The winning of the high jump

was not a surprise, and the second place finish by an Aggie wasn't either, since Marvin Taylor and Ben Greathouse were expected to place 1-2. However, the third place competitor was a newcomer to the event.

The college debut of Curtis Mills as a high jumper saw the great sprinter leap six feet. This couldn't touch the 6'7" of the other two Aggies, but it was better than anyone the Wildcats put up, so Curtis contributed one more point to the A&M total.

Another pleasant event was the pole vault, in which the Aggies swept the first three places

for the second week in a row. Harold McMahan won handily, and in the process tied the school record set by Henry Rollins. That 16'1 1/2" mark has stood since 1968, but it should fall soon.

The only disappointment came in the mile relay. On the second leg, Marvin Mills could only go about 200 yards before his leg cramped, forcing him to stop. No one was more disappointed than 2500 people who came to see the Aggies run. ACC finished easily, making this the only event in which they were able to blank A&M.

The first running event got things off to a thunderous start, with the foursome of Steve Barre, Curtis, Rogers, and Woods nipping the Wildcats. Both teams were timed in 40.7. Woods took the baton a little behind Bill Overly, but the 6-4 captain shut him down to win.

Frank Ybarbo ran a 4:14.6 mile and a 14:37.0 three miles to place second in each event. He continues to improve in the latter, bettering Saturday's time by nearly two seconds.

Mitch Robertson threw the shot 51'9 1/2" to come in third, but this toss was his best of the season.

The javelin throw has been a consistent winner for A&M, and yesterday was no exception, as Marc Black took it with a heave of 218'4".

Robert Brew ran a 49.0 quarter mile for second place. Curtis was not entered in this event, but ACC's ace, Roger Colglazier was, and he won with a 47.3.

The Lufkin senior was in the 100 yard dash, though, and he took first with a 9.0. Woods was right behind him with a 9.6 for second place.

Willie Blackmon took the 880 with a time of 1:53.6. Freshman

Harold Vagtberg was third in 1:55.5, his best this year.

In the 440 yard intermediate hurdles, senior Don Kellar turned in a 52.2 to finish first. David Morris ran a fine 53.1 to come in second.

Rogers continued his fine performance by finishing second in the 220. His 21.5 was his best time of the year. Freshman Alan Swagerty had a 21.6 for third place.

The pole vault looked like a repetition of Baton Rouge, with Larry McIntyre taking third with a 15 foot jump and Robert Hoffman close behind with a 14'6" leap for third.

"I was real pleased with today's results," Coach Charlie Thomas said after the meet. "You don't beat a fine team like ACC that way every day."

"We had some unexpected wins and high placings," he continued. "Rockie and Donny did real well in the high hurdles, and Bubba Vincent helped us out a lot in the discus. Since Johnson joined the team, things are looking up in the long jump. We have a good chance of doing real well with that helping us."

If the Aggies can continue to dominate the high jump and pole vault as they did yesterday, there will be more such victories coming their way. A&M swept both these events in fine fashion. Adding to this the victory in the long jump, nearly one third of the team's total points came in these three events.

Enter Rice Tournament

Netters fall to Pan American

By MICHAEL RICE
Battalion Sports Writer

Able to manage only three wins in the match against Pan American Tuesday on varsity courts, the Texas A&M tennis team was downed 5-3 before a crowd of about 100.

This was the fifth loss in dual competition logged by the Ags, compared to their win-column total of seven.

The three bright spots for the team were in two of the singles matches and one doubles match. Tommy Connell defeated Pan Am's Des Early 6-4, 6-4 in an

outstanding match of talent. Early previously had given Connell a lot of trouble.

In a long, hard-fought, exciting match Dan Coursen bested Italian Bruno Taino in two out of three with scores of 9-7, 3-6, 8-6.

The only other win registered for the Aggies was by the pair of Dickie Fikes and Jon Ragland in a two set win over Pan Am's best doubles team 6-2, 9-7.

There possibly would have been another win for the Aggies if the doubles match between A&M's Mike Hickey and Dan Coursen and Pan Am's Gewan Maharaj

and Early had not been called for darkness. A&M was leading the match with a 7-5 win and with a 5-4 lead with a service break on the second set.

Though the men and their coach, Omar Smith, were heavily disappointed by the loss, Smith feels that all his men need is more experience.

"People like Fikes and Hickey," Smith commented, "just aren't winning the close ones because of lack of confidence. They have had a small taste of pressure in our previous matches, but they haven't been exposed to enough

of it yet to be able to respond well in our future matches. Hopefully, the teams we meet next week will provide the experience we need."

The Aggies will be facing several of the roughest teams in the nation next week when they combat such teams as Oklahoma University, Minnesota, and LSU.

Thursday the team will be in Houston for four days to play in the Rice Invitational College Tennis Tournament at the Jake Hess Tennis Stadium on the Rice campus.

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