

Aggies can cinch title tie

By CLIFFORD BROYLES
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggie baseball team — with at least a tie for the Southwest Conference championship lying in the wake of a three-game sweep — travel to Fort Worth Friday and Saturday to play the good hitting Texas Christian University Horned Frogs.

The Aggies and Horned Frogs meet in a 1 p.m. doubleheader Friday and at 2 p.m. Saturday in a single game on Frog Diamond on the TCU campus, near Daniel Meyer Coliseum.

A&M currently leads the University of Texas at Austin by three games with each team having six to play. The Longhorns are at home against the Rice Owls this weekend and then will meet the Aggies on Kyle Field May 3-4.

ages are: Butch Ghutzman, shortstop; R. J. Englert, left field; Dave Elmendorf, centerfield; Billy Hodge, catcher; Gene Reinartz, 200, Sampson, .333, or Larry S. .327, right field; Chris Sana, first base; Carroll Lilly, .387, second base; Sandy Bate, .180, Jimmy Hacker, .269, third and the pitcher.

Team unity keeps Aggies on top

By JOHN CURYLO
Assistant Sports Editor

In sports like football, basketball, and baseball, teamwork is necessary just for the mechanical functions of the game. But in track, unity is the difference between a champion and a mediocre squad.

One doesn't have to be around the Texas Aggies very long to see that their team spirit, unity, and pride is excellent.

Whether it be on campus, at workouts, or at the meets, these guys are a close-knit group. The results are shown in the 1970 Southwest Conference championship.

Unity will not replace ability, but it is essential for bringing the best out of an athlete. Track is a unique sport, since, with the exception of relays, it is composed of individuals working separately. Any one person can go out on a track and run against someone else. Yet unity is vital for victory.

Watch the Ags at the conference meet here next week. When one is competing in an event, he knows that every member of the squad is behind him all the way. Such an incentive is good, because this way, he's working to help everyone else, not just himself.

The Texas Relays a few weeks ago is a good example of this. Most of the team was seated in the stands across the field from the finish line. So, while some of the races were going on, anxious eyes followed the progress of Marvin Taylor and Ben Greathouse in the high jump at one end of the field and Harold McMahan in the pole vault at the other end.

Although no team points were being given, the team cared about the performances of his teammates. This can't help but bolster an athlete's morale, particularly in track, where it is so important to be mentally prepared.

But the Aggies go one step further. They not only care about each other as athletes, they are also close off the track. You can ask any member of the team about another, and he can tell you about his workout habits, latest performances, and background.

Unity is strange, though. It makes things a lot more pleasant, but its real results show through when the competitors are closely matched. And no one can deny that this is the case in the conference this season.

Rice and Texas will be A&M's biggest rivals for the championship. Current statistics show that the three are almost even, with the Aggies ahead by just a little. So the conference gathering should show us quite a bit about the unity of the three teams.

Upsets or hotly contested events can give insight in this area. When surprises start occurring, look for an inspired effort. Behind that, look for the motivation of team spirit, pride, and unity, because that will usually be the cause.

So, it'll go down to the wire next weekend. But, when it comes to the winner, the squad with leaders like Curtis Mills, Rockie Woods, and Don Kellar, coaches like Charlie Thomas and Ted Nelson, and unity like the Texas Aggies should be on top—again.

Aggie coach Tom Chandler, still recovering from surgery at Sharpstown Hospital on a ruptured disc in his back, will be able to listen to the games by a special telephone hookup that will enable him to listen over the Aggie radio network.

TCU brings a 6-5 Southwest Conference and 19-16 season record into the series, with their

Mercer is fourth Ag cage recruit

Jerry Mercer, 6-8 Class AAAA All-Stater from state champion Cypress-Fairbanks, became the Texas Aggies fourth schoolboy cage recruit Tuesday when he signed a pre-enrollment application to A&M, coach Shelby Metcalf has announced.

Mercer averaged 17 points and 18 rebounds for the state champions and in the words of coach Metcalf "wiped the boards clean" at the state tournament in Austin.

Metcalf said that he plans to use Mercer on the low post and Cedric Joseph at the high post or on the wing.

Joseph was one of three players to have signed earlier. Aside from the Fort Worth Arlington Heights blue chipper, the Aggies had signed 6-3 Dale Donaldson, a teammate of Joseph's, and 6-7 Webb Williams of Comstock.

Shortstop Glenn Monroe is a .377 hitter and leads the Aggies at the plate. Freshman Pat Carden, the first baseman, is hitting .351 and another frosh, Phil Turner, is batting .350. Third baseman Don Bodenhamer is hitting .333 and centerfielder Jimmy Torres .329.

The Aggies probably will see Johnstone (5-3) and Earl Wallace (7-2) Friday and either Bobby Shaw, Johnny Grace or James Shebesta Saturday.

A&M will send regular starters Bruce Katt (4-0) and Paul Czerwinski (6-0) in the doubleheader and probably will nominate sophomore Charlie Jenkins (4-0) to pitch Saturday, as he returns to his home city. After a late start due to basketball season Jenkins now has a 0.96 era. Czerwinski leads the staff with a 0.57 standard.

The Aggies are expected to go with the same lineup for TCU as Tech, using Sandy Bate at third base and Gene Reinartz in right field against lefthand pitching and Jimmy Hacker at third and either Jim Sampson or Larry Smith in rightfield against right-hand flingers.

The probable starting lineup for the Aggies and their aver-

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