

Injuries slow Aggies at Drake

By JOHN CURYLO
Assistant Sports Editor

It was a disappointing Drake Relays for the Aggies, but they'll regroup for the conference meet here Friday and Saturday in hopes of repeating as champions.

Marvin Mills re-injured his leg during the prelims of the 440 yard relay, so he was held out of the 880 yard relay and the mile relay.

When the younger Mills brother was hurt, Coach Charlie Thomas took a precautionary move and held ace Rockie Woods out of the remainder of the meet, hoping to avoid injuring the senior sprinter before conference.

This just about equalled a withdrawal for the Aggies, who set the world record in the 880 yard relay at Des Moines a year ago.

This time around, A&M man-

aged fifth place, running a 1:24.5. The shuttle hurdle relay unit won by default, after the other teams were disqualified for either improper starts or improper running of the race.

The status of Marvin Mills and Woods could be the key to the conference meet. If both were fully healthy, Marvin would run the 100, 220, sprint relay, and maybe the mile relay. Woods would be in the 100, 220, sprint relay, and the 120 yard high hurdles. Aggie sweeps in the 100 and the 220 will be necessary for them to win again.

In a statement Monday, Thomas reported on the condition of his two runners, who were strategic to the crown won a year ago.

"There's a good possibility that Marvin'll be able to compete this weekend," the coach said. "I would like to keep him out of the 440 yard relay and let him concentrate on the 100 and 220, but if he's feeling okay we'll let him run in all three events."

"We pulled Rockie out of action just as a precautionary measure after Marvin was hurt," he added. "Rockie had a sore leg and we didn't want to take any chances of his hurting it and missing the conference meet."

If Marvin cannot run the sprint relay, then Donny Rogers will move into the third slot. Steve Barre, Curtis Mills, Rogers, and Woods have run a 40.1 this year, while the same team, with Marvin running, has turned in a 39.9.

If either Woods or Curtis is high-point man, he will become the eighth two-time holder of this distinction. Among the other seven is Thomas, who did it as a sprinter for the University of Texas in 1952 and 1953.

Rice and Texas will definitely contend this weekend, making it just about a triangular affair. Rice is good in the field events, quarter mile and the relays, and Texas is just about the same.

Things get under way Friday morning at 11 a.m., when the pole vault begins. The rest of the field events start at 1 p.m., and the running preliminaries start at 4 p.m. The finals begin at 7 p.m. Saturday night, with the mile relay wrapping up the meet at 8:40 p.m.

Admission for the event is \$2.50 for reserved seats. Children get in for \$1, as do A&M faculty and students. Since this is the conference meet and not A&M's, students will not be admitted on their activity cards. However, one ticket is good for both days.

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A&M captain John Rayton prepares to put the ball back into the middle of the scrum in Saturday's match with the Austin Rugby Club on the drill field in front of the Memorial Student Center. A&M won the match 29-3 to win the Northern division of the Texas Rugby Union. (Photo by Mike Rice)

To win Northern title

Rugby club shatters Austin

By MICHAEL RICE
Battalion Sports Writer

Displaying a great amount of rugby skill Saturday, the A&M I squad of the Texas A&M Rugby Club emerged victorious over the Austin Rugby Club, 29-3, carrying away the championship honors of the northern division of the Texas Rugby Union to boot.

The Aggie players, many of whom were competing with injuries such as separated shoulders, maintained their outstanding record of never allowing an

opponent to cross the Aggie goal line for a touchdown.

Austin's only score came in the first half of the game when the Aggies had an offside penalty called against them which resulted in a penalty kick for Austin giving them the sum total of points that the Ags would allow them.

The Aggies opened the game with an early score by Mark Fisher who weaved his way through several Austin tacklers to reach the goal line for three

points. John Rayton, captain of the team, followed the touchdown with a two point conversion kick to give the Aggies five points.

In the second half of the game the Aggies seemed to have been sparked by an even bigger urge to win the match as they came alive in their passing, charging, and tackling. The Aggies' output of energy was constantly rewarded through the rest of the game by a never-ending increase in the score against the Austin "Yellow-jackets."

In a spectacular run down the field, Gary Junot sprinted about 100 yards to the goal line to chalk up another three points for the Aggies' first score in the second half.

Rayton then followed Junot's heroics by drawing Austin toward him while he sprinted down the field with the ball and then passed to Andy Scott, who waltzed down a clear field to rack up three points.

While Austin was trying to rally in vain, Butch Preston managed to touch the ball down over

the goal line again for the Ags.

Following Rayton's two point conversion, Junot again streaked down the field for his second touchdown of the game. Rayton then converted for another two points to give the Aggies a score of 24-3.

While the Aggies were applauded for their outstanding performance, Coach Roger Boos felt the Austin team deserved some recognition for its never-ending fight.

"Two very fine sporting teams played here," he said, "and at any other time the score could go the other way. The match was a fine example of what rugby can be and next season the Aggies will have to fight even harder to beat Austin."

At any rate, the Aggies are now the champions of the Texas Northern Rugby Division. This means that the Aggies will compete against the champions of the southern division for the Texas title. The winner of the southern division has yet to be decided, but the championship game will be held in two weeks.

Gymnasts win five firsts

The Texas A&M Gymnastics team met competition this past Saturday in G. Rollie White Coliseum as the women's team vied with TCU, and the men competed against Texas-Austin.

Student coach Mickey Stratton and his assistant Ray Broussard decided this year to take the emphasis off of competition and place more emphasis on having fun in order to build up the team.

Placing for the girls were Reenie Turk, third in floor competition; Jane Parent, second in the uneven bars; and Sharon Harrison, third in vaulting.

Pulling in victories for the boys were Rex Stratton, in the high bar and parallel bars; Andy Scheidlemantle, first in the side-horse; and Gary Lasiter, first in floor and vaulting.

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