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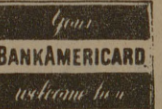
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John Curylo

'Matson Story' of interest to Ags

We had the privilege last weekend of reading a new offering from the book division of Track & Field News, "The Randy Matson Story."

Published in January, the 186-page work of Carlton Stowers sells for \$5.95. The athletic career of the 1967 graduate of A&M is traced from Little League baseball through two Olympics to last summer.

Stowers reportedly spent a great deal of time with the record-holding shot putter, digging into the details of his life. The entire book is spiced with anecdotes and experiences which are described and related in such a way that the reader feels like a participant.

Matson probably is the athletic figure one automatically associates with A&M. The impact he made in Europe and the United States is awesome, and Stowers brings out the impressive following the Pampa native has had since high school.

But the scenes which will interest most Aggies are the ones on campus. Matson's experiences since being recruited include such well-known characters as the late Gen. Earl Rudder, Charlie Thomas and Ted Nelson, the track coaches, Shelby Metcalf, Gene Stallings, Dr. John Knox and, of course, S. M. "Monk" Meeks.

Matson presently works for the booster club of West Texas State University. It is a shame that the administration here does not see fit to employ him in some capacity, since the image he projects and the exposure he gets would do much to help A&M in the public relations department.

From his home in Amarillo, Randy explained last weekend that he was proud and honored that the book has had such a good reception.

"I thought Stowers did a real good job," he said. "He spent a lot of time with me. We talked about a lot of things, and he did a lot of research. When I read the proofs before the book went to press, I was amazed that it was so factual. I'm really impressed that he was able to comprehend something he hadn't experienced, and then relate it to the readers the way he did."

Randy's arch-rival now is Al Feuerbach, to whom he lost the shot put event in Ft. Worth several weeks ago. Matson is preparing for the Olympics in Munich, having won a silver and gold medal in the last two games.

"I'm having a few problems now, but I'll work them out," he explained. "Naturally I'm not trying to reach my peak until right before the Olympics, but I'd still like to be getting it out there a little farther."

It was pointed out to Matson that Feuerbach may already have reached his limit. This would cause a flatness around the time of the Olympics, and more hard work by the Aggie would produce a victory.

"Well, I'm working pretty hard, I just don't have too much to show for it right now," he said. "I hope Feuerbach has reached his peak, because if he gets very much better, nobody could beat him."

Randy reported that he would participate in a meet in Los Angeles this weekend, then be out of competition for awhile. He said he may be in the Texas Relays in Austin April 7-8, but he has not made definite plans yet.

At the back of the book are some facts and figures about Randy Matson and his shot put career. As of October 1, 1971, he had the seven longest winning puts of all times, including his world mark of 71' 5 1/2", set April 22, 1967, in Kyle Field. Matson had nine of the top ten puts and 40 of the top 50.

Twelve others had exceeded 67 feet; Matson had bettered 67 feet in 72 meets and on at least 170 puts. Five others had surpassed 68 feet ten times in eight meets; Matson did it at least 77 times in 39 meets. Two others had exceeded 69 feet, once each; Matson topped 69 feet 22 times in 12 meets. Randy is the only person to have put the shot over 70 feet, doing it seven times in five meets.

"The Randy Matson Story" is a must for every Aggie. Seldom does an author do such a good job of describing A&M and the people associated with the university. Carlton Stowers has been quite successful. Our congratulations to him on his first book.

Spring training begins March 21, with the Maroon-White game set for 3 p.m. April 22 at Kyle Field. That same day, the Aggie baseball team host Rice at noon.

Don't be surprised if the following backfield is the one which starts this spring: quarterback—Lex James; running backs—Mark Green and junior college transfer Bob Jennings; and fullback—Brad Dusek.

This is just speculation, of course, and incoming freshmen or other players on the squad may move into any one of the Wishbone slots.

Nicklaus needs win at Doral to take money-winning lead

MIAMI (AP) — Jack Nicklaus, primed and ready to take over Arnold Palmer's spot as golf's all-time leading money winner, loomed as the man to beat in the \$150,000 Doral-Eastern Open, beginning Thursday.

The 32-year-old Nicklaus, now in his 11th year on the pro tour, pushed his career total to \$1,447,030.86 with his second place finish in Jackie Gleason's Inver-

rarry Classic last week and now is within one big step of overtaking Palmer.

The Golden Bear must win to do it.

He trails Palmer by \$24,185.97 on the all-time list. First prize here is \$30,000.

And Palmer, stung by one of his poorest performances in recent years, is taking the week off.

Bellard, Gabrel add another name to list of signees

Coach Emory Bellard added another jewel to an already star-studded list of high school football recruits when he signed Del Valle's great running back, Alvin (Skip) Walker Wednesday night.

Bellard and assistant coach Pug Gabrel were at Walker's home in Austin for the signing ceremony.

Walker is a 5-10, 170-pound running whiz with 9.6 speed for 100 yards. In one game this past season he scored four touchdowns and ran for 213 yards. He averaged more than 100 yards per game for the season.

He won all-district and was selected on the super Central Texas honor squad.

Scholarships cut by North Texas

DENTON, Tex. (AP) — Eighteen athletic scholarships, totaling \$28,500, have been eliminated from the North Texas State athletic department budget by Dr. Gustave Ferre, vice president of academic affairs.

Dr. Ferre said Wednesday the move is designed to offset the reorganization of the athletic department, which is planned to add a new post of assistant athletic director.

"We have been trying to determine a way to reorganize the department for quite awhile," Dr. Ferre said. "After last football season, it was evident that Rust, athletic director and basketball coach, was just struggling under with all the responsibilities of both jobs."

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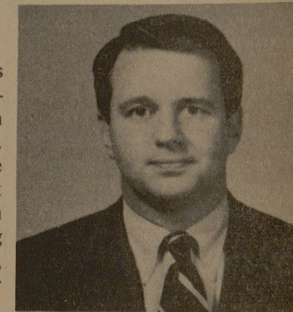
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A matter of life

by Gordon Richardson

A certain lady we know has been having all sorts of trouble, recently, with a certain company. It concerns a bill. And the villain in the piece is allegedly a computer. At least that's what she's been told by the firm's accounting department: "We're sorry, madam, but the computer keeps making mistakes."



Well, there's something funny about that. Because we haven't quite reached the point where machine controls man.

Mechanical breakdowns aside, computers don't make mistakes. What happens is that people feed them incorrect information, or misinterpret the information they produce. So let's not vilify the computer. Some human rates the boos and catcalls.

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