

Kevin's Korner



By KEVIN COFFEY, Sports Editor

On March 6, 1959, the Texas Aggies beat the University of Houston 7-4 in the first home baseball game of the season. That game is of little significance to most people but for Tom Chandler it was a dream come true.

That was Chandler's first win as a major college baseball coach. Somewhere in the shuffle, the Aggie mentor has added 297 others and seeks that magic No. 300 this Saturday against Arkansas.

George Kempen, '21, talked then athletic director Jim Myers into hiring Chandler and Aggie land has been blessed with winning baseball ever since.

Only one year has Chandler failed to win more games than he's lost, 1960, his second season at A&M.

After winning the Southwest Conference his first season, everything went wrong.

"Two kids signed pro contracts and we didn't recruit anyone to speak of," said Chandler, thinking back. "Then we lost two pitchers and several kids to injuries so it made for a strange but long season."

Chandler coached teams have won the SWC title in 1959 and 1964 and finished in a four way tie in 1966. He ranks among the top 20 in winning percentage among active coaches and in the top 40 of the all time list.

Thousands of players have been shaped by Chandler's coaching but the super stars don't stand out in his mind.

"The boys I remember are the ones with average ability that extend themselves and play well beyond their capabilities," said Chandler.

Chandler has an amazing memory for names of minor league players and stories of baseball in the old days. A veteran of minor league ball in the Pittsburg organization, Chandler has seen many changes.

"I played in a bus league where five hour trips and a quick doubleheader was a way of life," said Chandler. Today, everything is first class.

Chandler's distinct whistle and his ability to hum and make it sound like a trombone rank among the Aggie mentors other talents.

"We had a lot of spare time when I played pro ball so we just kinda hummed to each other. I just picked the trombone up along the way."

Both the high and low points of his coaching career have come in Texas' Clark Field.

"We had the conference title wrapped up in 1962," said Chandler. "All we had to do was beat Texas and we were winning 9-3 in the seventh. We had two out and two strikes on 'em but they rallied to win 10-9 in 11 innings. We were heart broken in the locker room but I told the team we'd be back in 1964 and win it. Well all those sophomores were seniors when we went back there and won it all before 7,000 teasips. It was great."

Chandler was all conference at Baylor two years. He was captain three years and had a .706 slugging average in 1946.

A&M has changed during his tenure and all for the good. "It used to be hard to recruit boys to play here but now A&M is well received everywhere. The girls have helped and everyone respects our academic standards."

As for the future, Chandler dreams of a new baseball facility with first class bleachers and playing surface. "Someday we'll get it, I hope it's soon."

In the mean time, Chandler is just whistling and humming along in the third base coaching box, waving Aggie runners across the plate.

N.C. State, UCLA set for showdown

Bruins favored to continue NCAA basketball dominance

GREENSBORO, N. C. (AP) — UCLA had the favorite's role and North Carolina State the confidence Thursday as the basketball superpowers headed for their publicized showdown in the NCAA semifinal playoffs.

Unawed by UCLA, cocky North Carolina State players predicted there wouldn't be a replay of last December's 84-66 thrashing by the Bruins in St. Louis. "We're 85 per cent better now than we were then . . . We were a little

bit awed the first time we played UCLA," said Moe Rivers, one of the North Carolina State catalysts in Saturday's semifinal struggle with UCLA at the Greensboro Coliseum.

North Carolina State, which will face UCLA in the nightcap of a semifinal doubleheader after Kansas meets Marquette, has won 26 games in a row since the UCLA disaster. On the other hand, the Bruins, winners of seven straight NCAA champion-

ships and nine in the last 10 years, have lost three games since the victory over North Carolina State.

Escaping with a cliff-hanging victory over Dayton in the West regionals, UCLA in fact almost didn't make it into the championship round—what laughingly has been referred to in the past as the "UCLA Invitational."

The Bruins have been installed as slight favorites despite their status in the polls—they're ranked No. 2 behind North Carolina State. But the point

spread will fluctuate daily depending on an important element—the condition of Wolfpack forward David Thompson.

Victim of a concussion and 15-inch head wound in last week's Eastern regional finals against Pitt, Thompson's health has been the most dramatic story leading up to the summit meeting with UCLA. The All-American has been simultaneously described as hot and cold at practice sessions.

"His biggest problem right now is that he's very tired," says

North Carolina State Coach Norm Sloan. "He has had so many friends who've wanted to see him he hasn't been able to rest."

Wearing a bandage on the back of his head, Thompson went through a practice session before a tremendous turnout of 2,500 cheering North Carolina State fans.

Two hours before the UCLA-North Carolina State affair at 3 p.m., EDT, Kansas plays Marquette in a game of less dramatic implications but certainly equal significance.

TAMSCC to hold autocross

The Texas A&M Sports Car Club is holding an autocross Saturday for all interested drivers.

The event consists of cars taking three timed runs of two laps or more each around a course marked by highway cones.

The track will be set up in parking lot 56 across the highway and railroad tracks from Kyle field. Access is by the back road next to the rodeo arena.

There will be five classes for all sizes of cars with no size limit. Coordinator Joel Hirsch emphasized that "by no means are entrants limited to sports cars."

A short safety inspection will be conducted. Seat belts are required as are helmets. Helmets are available at the event for loan purposes.

The entry fee is \$3.50 per driver except club members which may race for \$2.50.

Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. with practice starting at 11:30 and timed runs starting at 12:30.

Trophies will be awarded to winners.

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Intramural Results

The annual intramural track meet will start at 6:00 p. m. on Monday and continue until Thursday when the All-University finals will be held.

Classes A and X will hold preliminary Track events on Monday while classes B and C will conduct Field events that day. Tuesday will see A and X in preliminary Field events and B and C in Track prelims.

Class championships will be held Wednesday including class G.

All meets begin at 6:00 p. m.

The Senior Charity Classic basketball game has been set for April 2. Tickets are now available in the Intramural Office for a 50 cents donation.

Class A Horseshoes
Squadron 10 over Squadron 7
Squadron 3 over N-1
Squadron 14 over I-1
D-1 over M-1

Class B Horseshoes
Squadron 7 over I-1
C-2 over D-1

Class C Horseshoes
Davis-Gary over Law

MACUNAIMA

(Jungle Freaks)

The reviewer at the University of North Dakota called "MACUNAIMA" a "wild and extraordinary comedy film" by a Brazilian Woody Allen.

BOG film 'Macunaima' called 'National Lamponish'

By GREGORY J. JAVIER
The University of North Dakota reviewer of the film "Macunaima" has called it a "wild and extraordinary comedy film" by a Brazilian Woody Allen. The reviewer also called it "National Lamponish".

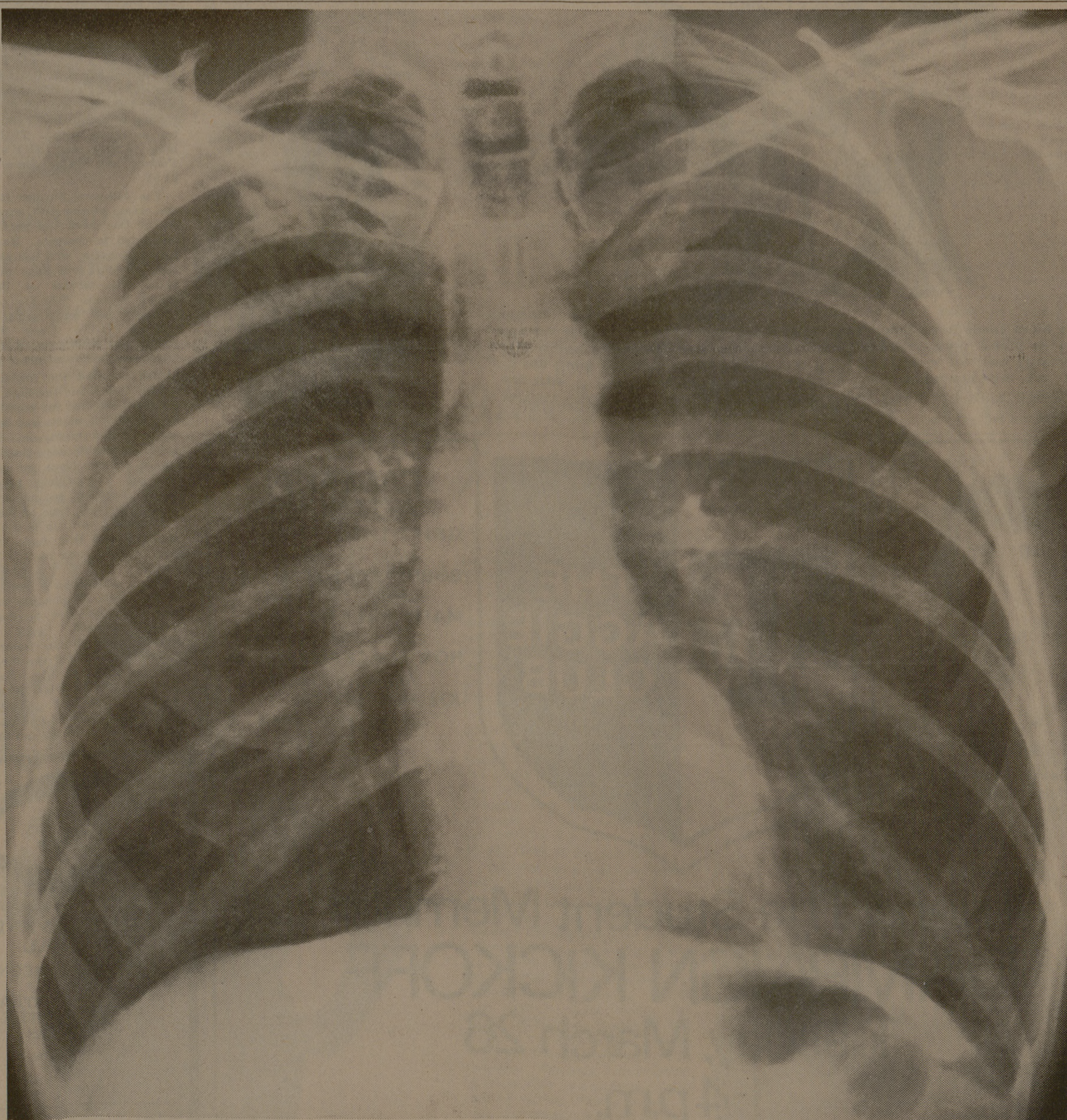
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