

Improvement key hope for track duo

By TED BORISKIE
Assistant Sports Editor

School records in the high jump, 120-yard high hurdles and javelin may be in jeopardy but to Danny Jones and Richard McGilvray, a school record is one of the farthest things from their minds. In fact, they would be happy just to qualify for the conference meet.

Jones is just a hair's breadth away from qualifying in the mile, having run a 4:18.0 with the conference standard a 4:16. McGilvray has run a 54.2 440-yard hurdles, just two-tenths of a second away from qualify-

ing. They both have their last chance to bring their times down Saturday as the Aggies travel to Waco for a dual meet with Baylor.

McGilvray ran a 14.3 in the high hurdles and a 38.4 in the 330-yard intermediate hurdles at San Antonio Alamo Heights High but had trouble adapting to the higher college hurdles.

"I came out this year determined to qualify for conference," said McGilvray. "I'm still determined but I guess it's boiling down to one last chance."

McGilvray was running a good

race in the quadrangular meet in Austin Thursday night but halfway through began to lose his timing which slowed him down.

"I know what I have to do," he said. "All I have to do now is get out and do it."

In Thursday's meet, Jones was the top Aggie finisher in the mile but was outpaced and turned in a 4:21 in an overall slow race.

"I think I could have run with the leaders," said Jones, "but I waited too long before making my move. I hung behind (Texas' Jack) Colovin and he started chopping (breaking stride) which threw me off. By the time I decided to break around him

the leaders were already too far ahead for me to catch. You might be able to make a mistake like that in high school and still win but a mistake will kill you in college."

"Danny deserves a lot of credit," said assistant track coach Ted Nelson. "Hardly anyone on the team works as hard as he does."

It might seem to the average onlooker that there are few rewards for trackmen like McGilvray and Jones but rewards do not always come in the shape of first-place medals.

"Running on the track team, you're in a position where it's you

against everybody else and I like that," said McGilvray. "I also enjoy a great comradeship of being on the squad because everyone is essentially in the same boat as you. All you can do is to go out and do your best and try to improve."

It's not hard to find McGilvray and Jones because every afternoon they are working out at Kyle Field, striving for improvement, fueled by some inner confidence that they can some day become No. 1. But if someone was to stop one of them and ask if he was planning to break a school record in an upcoming meet, he would probably just smile and shake his head. And keep on running.

Trophy case holds sports ghosts of A&M's heroes

By JERRY JOHNSON

Do any of you out there stop to pay some attention to the trophy case in C. Rollie White Coliseum?

Some of the Aggies greatest sports achievements are captured in that small space. One is the football from the 1917 A&M-Texas game. With that win, the Aggies capped a perfect undefeated, untied and unscored-on season.

The feats of Aggie sports heroes are also featured there. The shot with which Randy Matson putted for his late world record is on display. So are the outstanding player awards presented annually to the A&M basketball, baseball and track teams.

Athletic Department Business Manager Wally Groff is in charge of the case and what goes in there. "We try to put in the most recent trophies. We also include some of the older, more famous trophies."

The case is on the right hand side of the main entrance to the coliseum. It is divided into four sections.

The oldest item on exhibit is the football from the 1915 A&M-Texas game. After this game, the Aggies branded a steer with the score 13-0 from which the name Bevo evolved for the UT mascot. The people at Austin connected the 1 and the 3 to form a B, made an E out of the dash, inserted a V and just like magic BEVO.

Down through the years, the awards trickled in. In the second section of the case is the trophy from the Southwest Conference champion track team of 1921. They were presented the Schmelzer's trophy. It stands about one foot high and is in the shape of a loving cup instead of the vertical trophies of today.

In 1940, the Aggies won their second of what was to become three SWC football championships in a row. On New Year's Day, 1941, they played and beat Fordham in the Cotton Bowl Classic. The trophy they won that day is in the fourth section of the case.

Ten years later the Aggies were in Washington, D.C., to play the University of Georgia in the Presidential Classic. They came back victorious with a 40-20 win and the Presidential Cup. This is the largest of the football trophies in the case. It's in the fourth section of the case, too.

The A&M track teams of Coaches F. G. Anderson and Charlie Thomas dominate the display. There are 22 track trophies in case. Football has the next highest total with eight.

The trophy the track team won in 1953 is in the fourth section. This award ended the string of SWC championships in seven years for Coach Anderson and his Aggies.

The alligator covered football from the 1957 Gator Bowl is in the second section. That A&M team was led by Heisman Trophy winner John David Crow. But even he couldn't stop the University of Tennessee that day as the Volunteers won 3-0.

The other present Aggie coaches who's teams are honored are Tom Chandler (baseball) and Henry Ransom (golf). Both coaches won their sports conference championships in their first year at A&M. Those trophies are in the first section of the case.

"The 1959 baseball team didn't have what I'd call a lot of natural ability," said Chandler. "We were on our way out midway through the season. We had five losses, two outs and

were behind 9-5 in the top of the ninth against TCU. Then their great shortstop George Banda dropped a pop fly. From there, we went on to win that game 10-9 and swept Texas three straight to win the championship."

1960 was the first year Ransom was at A&M. He won four consecutive SWC championships in his first four years as head golf coach. Both his 1960 and 1963 trophies are in the case.

The team with the most awards is Coach Thomas' 1970 track team. "That was a good team. We were very strong in the relays with Rockie Woods and Curtis Mills," Thomas said. "Rockie was one of our studs. He had just exceptional strength in his legs. Curtis' best quality was his hard work. He also had a lot of natural ability."

Mills set a world record in the 440 yard dash in the 1969 NCAA meet. He also anchored the indoor mile relay world record team of 1970. Both these moments are captured on pictures in the third section of the case.

"Strength, agility and finesse." These are the words Thomas uses to describe Randy Matson. Matson ruled the world weight scene in his competing years at A&M. His biography and shot put are in the third section, also.

The Dallas A&M Club presents the award to the MVP of the baseball team. Chandler said, "We give the winner a smaller trophy and put his name on the big one. Right now we're a few names behind." He said the winners in '73 were Bobby Falcon and Jim Hacker.

The John H. Lindsey award for the basketball MVP stands right beside the other two.

From 1915 until now the Aggies have won their share of loving cups, Presidential Cups and trophies. They are there for people to look at if you just take the time.

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