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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

IN
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by ARTHUR MILLER

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Early season times exceptional

1975, year of fast SWC meet

By MIKE BRUTON
Sports Editor

With the outdoor track season just beginning it already looks like this year's Southwest Conference track meet will be exceptionally fast.

Several SWC trackmen and weightmen are now near or bettering the marks they posted in last

year's conference meet and the season is very young.

Most track coaches try to gauge their workouts in such a way that their runners will produce the best times near the end of the season or during the conference meet. Keeping that in mind it seems like the track's going to be plenty hot come SWC meet time.

Longhorn Dana LeDuc and TCU's Bill Collins, who are both defending SWC champions in their events, have already beat the marks they posted in the 1974 SWC meet. This past weekend at the Border Olympics LeDuc heaved the shot-put almost a foot farther than his SWC toss of 63 feet nine-and-a-quarter inches last year with a 64

feet and seven inch put at Laredo. Collins sped to a 9.4 time in the 100-yard dash Saturday bettering his wind aided 9.5 which won the conference last year.

A&M's Doug Brodhead defending 440-yard dash champion is within four tenths of a second of his SWC winning time of 47.2 in 1974. Baylor's Tim Son significantly im-

proved his conference meet mark 48.3 by winning the 440 at the Border Olympics with a swift 47.1.

Ricky Thompson and Mike Shivers, a pair of Baylor long jumpers have also beat their 1974 SWC marks with jumps of 24 feet and six inches respectively. Thompson leaped 24 feet and eight inches last spring and Shivers made a jump of 23 feet and one-and-a-quarter inches.

Aggie Shifton Baker finished third amongst 440-yard hurdlers in the SWC meet last week at Laredo in 52.9 seconds Saturday. Baker trailed only one SWC hurdlers, Jerome Gibbs of Baylor who won the event with a 52.7. Alan Smith Lamar took the second spot with a 52.8 time.

The Longhorns will probably monopolize the discus event with Jim McGoldrick and LeDuc. Last weekend both weightmen hit their conference tosses of last year by sailing the plate 182 feet and three inches and 177 feet and six inches respectively. In the SWC meet McGoldrick threw the disc 184 feet and four inches and LeDuc achieved a mark of 172 feet and four inches.

TCU's sprint relay team of Bill Collins, Phil Delaney, Lorenzo Bradford and Sam McKinney, zoomed to a 40.8 time Saturday. They are three tenths of a second from the winning time in that event last year at the SWC contest. SMU won the SWC sprint relay crown last year with a 40.5.

It's a little early to make predictions about records being in jeopardy, but there are three events where the possibility lingers. The SWC record in three mile 13:58 set last year by Tim Patton of Texas has already been threatened by Rice's Jeff Wells.

Wells ran a 13:56.5 time to outdo the competition in Laredo Saturday. Other strong contenders at that event are Bruce Smith of A&M and Brad Brikman of Houston.

A&M's Scottie Jones, who was plagued by injuries most of last season, needs only to stay healthy to have a chance at the SWC record in the 120-yard hurdles. Jones, who has to be considered as the premiere hurdler in the conference should hit the lower 13's this season. Aggie Rockie Woody holds the record with a 13.7 time.

Bill Collins, who has already run a 21.0 220-yard dash this season, threatens the SWC record of 20.8 set by Billy Foster of SMU in 1967 and tied by A&M's Curtis Mills in 1970. A&M's Brodhead will surely be hot on his heels as he posted a 21.0 time in the conference meet last spring.

As mentioned before, it's early in the season, anything could happen but the times are good now and they'll probably be better then.

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Kentuckians stay No. 1 on AP poll

(AP) — For the third straight week, Kentucky State retained its firm hold on the top spot in The Associated Press college division basketball poll, released Tuesday.

Coach Lucius Mitchell's Thorax reds, 24-2, closed out their regular season with three victories last week, topping Northern Kentucky State 108-94, Kentucky Wesleyan 81-75 and Marian 118-73. Kentucky State received 12 first-place votes and 266 points from a national panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Jackson State, with a final 24-4 record, remained in second place collecting three first-place votes and 219 points. Next was Bentley, 24-1, which polled two first-place ballots and 172 points after trimming Keene State 75-72.

Gardner-Webb, 23-3, held fourth place with 142 points, while Randolph-Macon, 26-2, stayed in fifth place with 137 points following three consecutive victories. The Yellow Jackets beat Catholic U. 97-86, Roanoke 60-56 and Ball State more 79-70.

Old Dominion advanced from seventh to sixth place in the rankings, drawing three first-place votes and 121 points after defeating Philadelphia Textile 104-77 and Georgia Southern 103-89.

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