

Race against wood, metal

Hurdlers must bear their scars

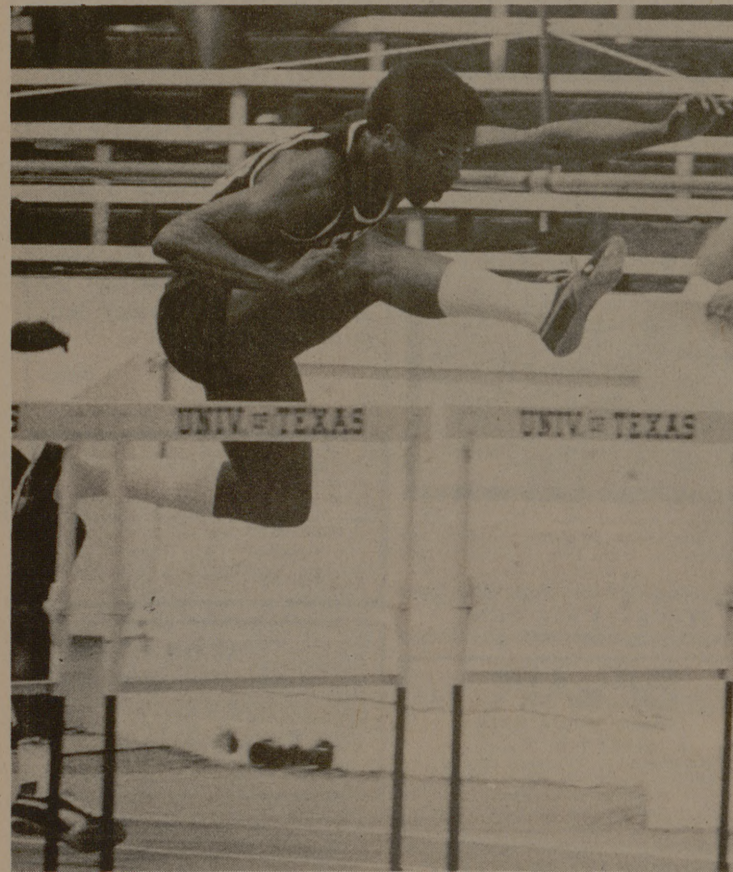
By PAUL McGRATH
Staff Sports Writer

A hurdler bears the scars of his race against the clock. A sprinter worries only to stay in his lane while the hurdler competes against wood and metal.

The hurdles events are usually one of the more exciting races of a track meet because certain skills are

required besides speed.

A&M has four hurdlers this year in the presence of Scottie Jones, Shifton Baker, Mike Williams and Richard McGilvary. In Jones, the Aggies have perhaps an athlete with world class potential. The 5-10 senior has under his belt the Southwest Conference 120-yard hurdles titles for the last two years.



Scottie Jones exhibits SWC-winning form

Jones holds several A&M records such as a 7.2 time in the 60-yard indoor hurdles and a 13.5 in the 120, a mark he shares with Rockie Woods. He holds the high school indoor world record for the 120 hurdles with a 13.7 clocking. He was an All-American at Houston Elmore which produced another Aggie trackster, Charles Dawson. He ran a 13.8 his freshman year at Elmore and was tied for fourth in the world his sophomore year with a 13.5. His junior and senior years he was ranked in the top two in the nation.

His best time this year has been a 13.9, although he ran a 13.5 split in the shuttle relay. But, the nemesis of all thinclads, injury, has found Jones.

The man who will be earning his fourth track monogram is limping around with a rotated femur. The bone is thought to be out of position but no x-rays have been taken yet.

"I don't think I've gotten proper attention in the training room at all," said Jones.

"I've gotten some treatment, but not very thorough. The trainers don't give special attention to athletes in areas other than football. We get a lot of guesswork instead of efficient care. It had gotten to the point that Coach (Charles) Thomas had to come into the training room to help treat our injuries," said Jones.

Jones said that Head Trainer Billy Pickard had given him some pills to relax his muscles but was not giving him "the full professional attention that I need."

Jones' injury is not responding to treatment and he says, "I really don't know when I'll be able to run again."

Shifton Baker and Mike Williams have happier stories to tell, because at least they're healthy. Baker was all-state and an All-American at Elgin High School while Williams had the nation's best time in the 120 at 13.6 during his four year stay at Rayburn High in Pasadena.

Baker and Williams explain the mechanics of hurdling. "The first hurdle is the most important. You have to charge it and get over it. You

get your speed up at the first hurdle and build up your momentum."

"Try never to hit two hurdles in a row." Hitting hurdles is as much fun to hurdlers as trying to catch javelins is to anyone else. "There's nothing you can do if you hit one except to try to not let it slow you down too much."

"Hurdling is not a jump. You don't jump, you step. You're stepping, not sailing."

"Hurdling takes concentration. After a while, everything becomes automatic, it's just natural." Williams described the step as becoming a "habit."

"There's no set correct form. The most prominent hurdlers like (Rod) Milburn, use the both arm out method. Others keep one arm forward and one back for balance. When going over a hurdle, you always try to stay as low as you can."

Baker also runs the 440-yard hurdles which he says "takes the endurance of an 880 man." The ten hurdles in the 120-yard are spaced ten yards apart with 15 yard lengths lo-

cated at the start and at the finish.

Baker measures the quarter mile hurdles in steps. He takes 22 steps to the first hurdles and from there tries to take between 13 and 17 for the others. Whereas the 120 hurdles are 42 inches high, three inches higher than high school standards, the 440 hurdles stand three feet tall.

"You usually have to be tall to run the high hurdles and don't have to be tall in the lows," said Baker.

Jones spoke concerning some of the competition the Aggie hurdlers will be facing this year. Baylor has football player Alcy Jackson slated in the hurdles and the University of Houston has SWC indoor champ Fred Cavitt. Jones has beaten both men this year.

Baker has an axiom concerning competition in the hurdles. "In this race, everyone has got the same legs and has to run just as far. He (the competition) might be world class, but if he hits a hurdle, he'll be world class on the ground."

Even the best of hurdlers must bear the scars.

Hemmeter says WFL will last

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — World Football League president Chris Hemmeter said Wednesday that there is no doubt in his mind the WFL will operate for several years to come.

"Even from the most conservative base, there will be a WFL in 1975," he said.

At a news conference following a day-long meeting of 13 prospective franchise owners, Hemmeter said he could not make a full-fledged and guaranteed announcement that the WFL will play another season. But time and again he said there would be a league.

Hemmeter said a minimum of eight teams would place a minimum of \$1 million and in some cases more than \$2 million in escrow bank ac-

counts controlled by the league. He said this money would guarantee that they could pay operating expenses for the next three years.

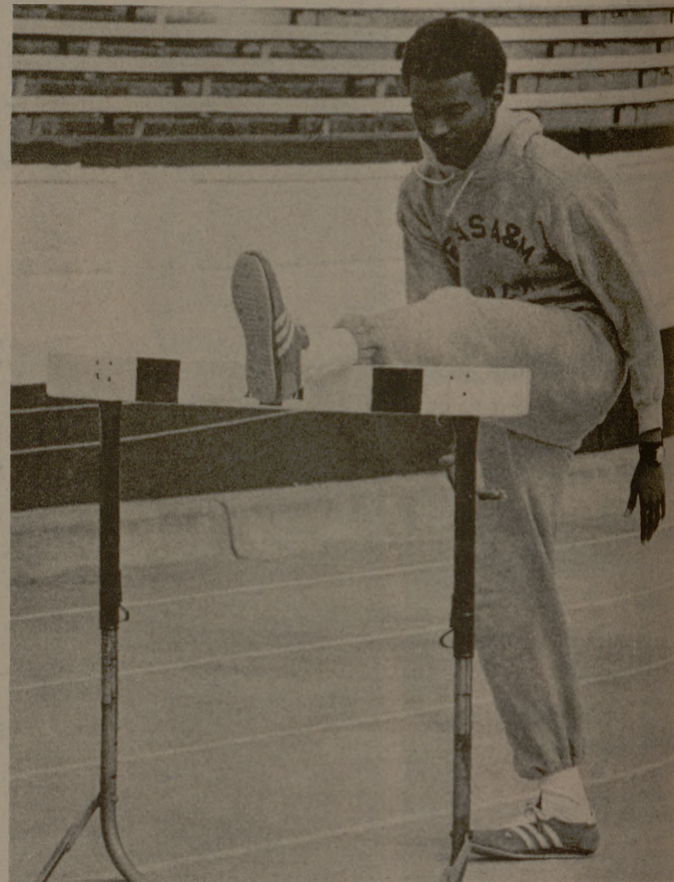
He said that the league would announce on April 12 in New York the teams that would play in 1975, as well as a 20-game schedule beginning in the last week of July or the first week of August.

He said that before then, all debts incurred by the league and its teams, including back pay to players and coaches, would be settled. He said current debts amounted to about \$5.7 million.

Hemmeter said the league was making a plan for payment to all those players who were not paid last year. He said the league is offering between 15 and 25 per cent of the unpaid balance in cash.

The remaining amount owed any player would be paid over the next five years in scheduled installments with 6 per cent interest. Hemmeter said the league would offer a cash settlement to any player who did not want to accept the five-year payment plan.

Batt sports



Shifton Baker loosens up before workout

3 favorites continue in Houston matches

HOUSTON (AP) — Three favorites won second round matches in the women's professional tennis tour here Wednesday but two were extended to three sets.

Third seeded Evonne Coolidge of Australia had her problems but managed to defeat Julie Anthony of Los Angeles, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2; and eighth seeded Francoise Durr of France was extended in defeating Terry Holliday of La Jolla, Calif., 7-5, 4-6, 6-4.

Fifth seeded Olga Morozova of Russia also won her second round match by eliminating Carrie Meyer of Indianapolis, Ind., 7-6, 6-4.

Other favorites, including top seeded Margaret Court of Australia

and second seeded Chris Evert of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. played night matches.

In another afternoon second round match, Laura DuPont of Charlotte N.C. defeated Linky Bishoff of South Africa, 6-4, 6-3.

The finals of the \$75,000 tournament will be held Saturday. The singles winner will receive \$15,000 and the runnerup \$8,000.

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<p>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>Mexican Fiesta Dinner</p> <p>Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w/chili</p> <p>Mexican Rice Patio Style Pinto Beans, Tostadas</p> <p>Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread</p>	<p>SATURDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>"Yankee Pot Roast Texas Style"</p> <p>Tossed Salad Choice of one vegetable</p> <p>Roll or Corn Bread & Butter</p>	<p>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</p> <p>ROAST TURKEY DINNER</p> <p>Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing</p> <p>Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea</p> <p>Giblet Gravy</p> <p>And your choice of any One vegetable</p>

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