

Ags run well at Baylor

By PAUL McGRATH
Staff Sports Writer

The three B's came through for Texas A&M Saturday in the Baylor Invitational with three firsts, a second and three thirds.

Shifton Baker, Doug Brodhead and Brad Blair each scored first place points between them in the 120-yard high hurdles, the 440-yard dash and the pole vault respectively. Baker grabbed a third in the 440-yard intermediate hurdles and ran the first leg of the third place 480-yard shuttle hurdle relay team.

Brodhead ran the second leg of the 440-yard relay which finished second and the third leg of the mile relay team which ended third. Blair, seeking to repeat as the Southwest Conference champion on the high bar, used a 16-0 vault to finish in the driver's seat.

Baylor and Rice were named co-winners of the meet's outstanding team by the local scribes. The Owls took firsts in seven events while the Bears captured five. Together they won 12 of the 17 events.

Although the Aggies claimed the top spot in just three events, they were not without some sparkling performances. Aggie polevaulters swept the top three spots in that event. Behind Blair were David Peterak and Pat Ruchle, both with 15-6 vaults.

Baker won his heat in the 120 prelims and came back to win the finals with a 13.9, with some judges clocking him at 13.7. He put A&M in front with his leadoff leg in the shuttle hurdle relay and sped to his best time ever in the intermediates with a 52.1. Baylor hurdler Jimmy Gailey became the first SWC performer to go under 52 seconds this year with a 51.9 effort.

Baker defeated the Bears' 120 man, Aley Jackson, in each of their three races. For his victory in the high, as did all first place winners, Baker received a wristwatch from former baseball great Mickey Mantle.

Two-time SWC hurdles champ Scottie Jones was in action for A&M for the first time in two months. He took third in his 120 heat, scratching out of the finals. Jones almost re-injured his leg. "We'll have to wait to see how he is," said track coach Charles Thomas. "Scottie's the one we have to get back. We could go one-two in the high hurdles at the conference meet."

Brodhead, the Aggies' team captain, came from behind to overtake and pass Baylor's Tim Son with a 46.9 clocking in the quarter. Son

came back with a 45.8 anchor leg in the mile relay as the Bears improved their mile mark with a 3:07.7 to the approval of the home crowd.

The Rice Owls were impressive, obtaining a double win from Jeff Wells, named the meet's outstanding individual, in the mile and three mile, and a 9.6 win in the 100-yard dash from Zoe Simpson. Simpson also anchored the Owls' winning sprint relay team.

The Owls took half of the field events with wins in the javelin, shot put and discus. Baylor's Ricky Thompson, with a 25-1/2 leap, was the first SWC long jumper to pass 25 feet and Bear high jumper Kevin Delorey cleared 7-1 to win that event.

A&M's Charles Dawson had a 9.5 time in the century prelims and was three yards ahead of Simpson out of the blocks in the finals, but the Owl dashman motored past him and Dawson was accredited with third place. Dawson slightly re-injured his leg and remains doubtful said Thomas.

Thomas was happy with the performance of Paul Miller in the javelin. Miller tossed the spear 196-1 1/2

for second place. Bill Newton, the SWC champ in the javelin, competed in the Kansas Relays this weekend and managed a sixth place finish there with a 217-3/4 toss.

Thomas expressed pleasure with his high jumpers, saying it was one of their better performances of the year. Phil McGuire jumped for second place points with a 6-8.

On the negative side is the injury to Horace Grant. Grant is feeling pain from his knee to his lower back and is lost for the A&M mile relay team.

Several A&M runners returned from injury to compete in the meet. Half miler Adolph Tingan ran a 1:53.5 in his leg on the two-mile relay. Thomas was encouraged with Sammy Dierschke's first race since the Border Olympics as the Aggie junior collected a 49.3 time in the open quarter.

The Aggie thinclads now travel to Des Moines, Iowa for the Drake Relays. However, some difficulties have been encountered as the plane company Thomas had chartered with is being sued by a rival company and the team is now forced to seek different transportation.



Shifton Baker being challenged by Rice's Mike Fulgham

(Photo by Glen Johnson)

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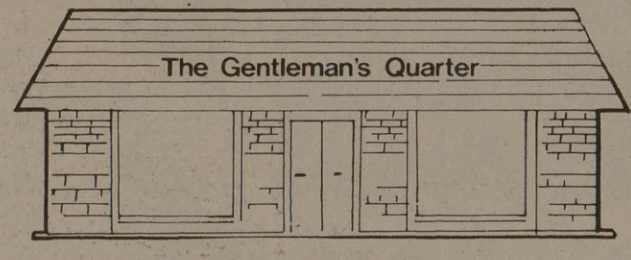
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