

Has long way home

Tingan must stretch 880

By NICK VOINIS
Staff Sports Writer

How would you like to have to run the 880 in 1:49-1:50 just to be able to go home and visit your family? First of all not many of us are as talented and able to run that fast. Second of all most of us aren't from Ghana.

Texas A&M trackster Adolph Tingan will have to accomplish that feat to visit home this summer. The junior agribusiness major has not been to his native country since entering school here.

Tingan is hoping to make a good enough showing to be invited to join the national team there, this summer. He has the confidence and credentials to do it.

The native of Lawra, Ghana, will be running the scratch leg on the distance medley this weekend at the

prestigious Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa. His best time so far this season has been 1:52.4 set at the College Station triangular meet (A&M, Rice and Houston).

Tingan trained differently at Lawra's Waco High School than he does here for the Aggies. His workouts were very short and unorganized. When track season was over they didn't continue work out until the next season.

The students at his high school lived in dormitories. Each dorm had its own track team and from there the best teams were picked to compete in the regionals.

Tingan's team won the championship his freshman and sophomore

years. In his senior year they tied for it. The 5-9, 140-pound runner participated in the 880 and mile runs.

After his high school graduation Tingan stayed out of school and tried out for the National team. He was one of the best student athletes in the nation during his senior year. He never got the chance to represent his country but he came close.

He was recruited by three schools in the United States including the University of Nebraska and A&M. His high school coach, an American Peace Corps member encouraged his coming to Aggieland, because of its track tradition and warm climate.

Tingan had a difficult time adjusting to the life here. He said his first week was a disaster because of the

weather conditions and the cultural shock.

"I was in a different environment," he replied. "No one spoke my language, everyone spoke English. I came in the spring and it was very cold — I wasn't used to it."

Getting used to the Bisma food was one other problem. "The Bisma food was terrible! The food was too greasy," he said. "The Cain Hall food is much better and I have gotten used to the living here."

Although Tingan now enjoys living here he certainly will return home because of its better opportunities.

Tingan suffered an ankle sprain March 8 and wasn't able to participate in meets until last weekend at the Baylor Invitational. He doesn't believe it will bother him at the Drake meet. "It was almost back to normal last weekend. I think I'm ready to go now," he said.

The upcoming Drake Relays will be Tingan's third visit to the Des Moines classic. "It's really a great meet," he said. "You'd think it was a football game or something. The people there really know their track."

Tingan is planning to go into business upon his return to Ghana, hopefully as an American firm representative. He will graduate in December of 1976.

"I'm thinking if I can run well, I'd like to represent my country in the Olympics next year," he concluded. He said it was his dream, and he would need to run the 880 at a 1:48 clip. "I should be able to run it — it ought to be no problem."



ADOLPH TINGAN (Photo by Glen Johnson)

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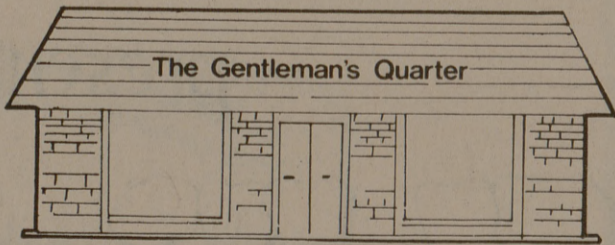


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Schlicher steadily improving

By DAVID WALKER
Staff Sports Writer

HOUSTON — Ft. Worth Paschel high school star John Schlicher has been moved from the intensive care unit of Methodist Hospital to a private room.

Schlicher's improvement has been steady since his April 12 accident while on a recruiting visit to Texas A&M.

"John is doing real well," said Aggie assistant coach Bob Gobin Wednesday. "It should be all improvement from now on," Gobin said.

"He had improved enough that they could operate on his elbow last Thursday and we don't foresee any setbacks," Gobin said. "John is talking a little now and he's getting around, he's going to be all right."

Schlicher was seriously injured April 12 when he was horseback riding while on his official recruiting visit to A&M.

Persons interested in sending cards or letters to Schlicher can send them to:

John Schlicher
c/o Methodist Hospital
Houston, Texas

Media tourney needs caddies

Caddies are needed for the 1975 Athletic Department News Media Golf Tournament. Caddies can sign up in room 204 G. Rollie White.

The tournament will be held on the A&M golf course this Friday.

As of Monday only 27 caddies have signed up with over 90 golfers due to play.

WE'RE NUTS
about giving away gift certificates. Last weekend we gave a \$10.00 gift certificate to David Altenhoff, 1201 Hwy. 30, No. 107, Class of 1977 for his definition of a hero: "A hero is someone who you see in your eyes as having the qualities and characteristics that you strive to have."

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