

Texas slight favorite in SWC meet

Ags battle for track title

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by MIKE BRUTON Sports Editor

The Texas A&M track team will go to Lubbock this weekend with hopes of robbing favored Texas of their fourth straight title in the 60th Southwest Conference track and field meet.

The Aggies will have four entrants defending titles and at least one qualifier in each of the 16 events that are to be run at the Texas Tech track stadium. Defending titles will be Doug Broadhead in the 440-yard dash, Bill Newton in the javelin, Brad Blair in the polevault and two-time SWC champion Scottie Jones

in the 120-yard high hurdles. No other team have more than three entrants who were 1974 champions.

Texas will certainly be the team to beat but A&M, Baylor and Rice will leave the Horns no room to half-step. The age old nemesis of the Aggies, the injury bug, has also bitten the Longhorns, with the heaviest damage being inflicted by the loss of sprinter Marvin Nash who pulled up lame a few weeks ago and distance men Paul Craig and Tim Patton.

Baylor's thinclads have run very well through the season and were barely beaten by Texas in the indoor

championships in January. The Bears boast an outstanding mile relay, with strength in the middle distances, hurdles and the jumping events.

The Rice Owls are more like the Aggies but with less injury problems. They have contenders in several events and have to be considered as a pre-meet selection to finish among the top.

Although not considered as contenders Arkansas, SMU and TCU will exhibit strength in some areas. The Hogs will excel in the distances, TCU in the sprints and the Mustangs should score scattered points

in several events.

The 1975 SWC meet promises excitement with nine of 14 champions of the 1974 meet eligible to defend their titles. Competition this season has been so intense that only three of the '74 titlists are heavily favored to repeat. Baylor's Kevin Delorey who has sailed over the bar at 7-1 twice this season in the high jump should hang on to the title he won as a freshman. Texas' Dana LeDuc stands unbeaten in eight meets this spring and should keep plenty of distance between himself and the rest of the field in the shotput. And Bill Collins, the speed

demon of Fort Worth, should lead the field in an exceptionally strong 100-yard dash.

There will also be three runners in this year's affair who have run their events faster than any other performer in the history of SWC track and field. Texas' Robert Primeaux has run the quarter hurdles in 49.5 and Arkansas' Randy Melancon has glided to a 13:24.9 finish in the three-mile. Collins of TCU has sped to a legitimate 9.3 in the century tying him with Rocky Woods of A&M and John Roderick of SMU for all-time honors.

There are several other entrants in the 1975 meet who are among the top in all-time marks: Delorey of Baylor in the high jump, LeDuc of Texas in the shotput, TCU's Collins in the 220 (curve), Arkansas' Niall O'Shaughnessy in the 880, Texas' John Craig in the mile, Ricky Thompson of Baylor in the long jump, David Shepherd of Texas in the polevault, A&M's Scottie Jones in the high hurdles. The Longhorn sprint relay (39.8) ranks fifth on the all-time list.

Some records should fall in the '75 SWC meet with three current records already bettered and three more tied. The Hog's Melancon and Rice's Jeff Wells seriously threaten the 3-mile mark of 13:56.8 set by Texas' Patton last year. O'Shaughnessy of Arkansas has run a 1:47.5 this season almost a full second better than the current standard of 1:48.1 set in 1969 by Longhorn David Matina. Shepherd's 17-4 in the polevault also jeopardizes the record in that event. The Horns have tied A&M's 1970 sprint relay of 39.8 once this year but may not be able to shatter the mark in this weekend's competition due to injury problems. The Horned Frog wonder Collins' 9.3 and 20.7 in the sprints ties existing standards in the 100 and 220.

Other records threatened are the mile run (4:03.2), the discus (202-11), the mile relay (3:06.7) and the high jump (7-1 1/2). Four runners have dropped below 4:07.0 in the mile this year and Baylor's Delorey is a half inch away from the record books in the high jump. Baylor's swift foursome and the Longhorn quartet will press the top mark in the mile relay running 3:07.0 and 3:07.9 respectively. Jim McCordrick of Texas, the second part of the Longhorn one-two punch in the shotput and discus, has thrown the discus 202-3 this season.

Finals in the long jump, javelin and discus and preliminaries in running events will begin at 4:30 p.m. Friday. The meet will conclude Saturday with the remainder of the field events starting at 4:30 p.m. and finals in the running events beginning at 6 p.m.

Texas A&M's Entries (best marks in parentheses):

- 100-yard dash: Charles Dawson (9.5); 220-yard dash: Doug Broadhead (20.8); 440-yard dash: Doug Broadhead (46.9); 880-yard run: Jim Brannen (1:52.0); Mile run: Manfred Kohrs (4:10.3); 3-mile run: Bruce Smith (14:08.0); Charles Cottle (14:19.9); Manfred Kohrs (14:24.3); Long Jump: Tom Owen (23-10 1/4); Javelin: Bill Newton (228-5); Paul Miller (192-6); 120-yard hurdles: Shifton Baker (13.8); Scottie Jones (13.9); 440-yard hurdles: Shifton Baker (52.1); 440-yard relay: 40.4 (Robert Harris, Doug Broadhead, Charles Dawson, Ray Brooks); (D'Ambrosio may substitute for Dawson); Mike Relay: 3:10.1 (Sam Dierschke, Charles Butler, Horace Grant, Doug Broadhead); (Terry Novak, Ron McConigle or Gerald D'Ambrosio may sub for Dierschke); High Jump: Lynn Byrd (6-10); Phil McGuire (6-10); Don Riggs (6-8); David Frazier (6-6); Shot put: Frank West (52-0); Pole Vault: Brad Blair (16-7); David Peterek (15-6); Pat Buehle (15-6); Discus: Frank West (145)

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