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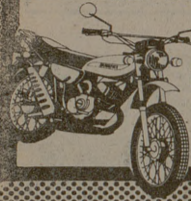
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# Texas A&M swimmers place second to Mustangs

By SANFORD RUSSO  
Battalion Contributing Editor

The swim team made a strong second place showing at the SMU Invitational Meet this past weekend.

Three A&M point-getters, flyers Don Wederman and Bill Yates along with Olympic-class swimmer Erik Rasmussen, were hospitalized during the weekend for flu infection.

"I just hope the rest of the team can stay well," said Coach Dennis Fosdick. Conference is two weeks away for the men and a sick team could prove disastrous to the 18 man traveling squad.

The SMU meet provided another chance to shatter school records with a team consisting mostly of freshmen.

Freshman Roger Lien bettered the 1650-yard freestyle mark set by Doug Meaden. Lien swam a 16:52.14, nearly 10 seconds better than the old record.

"I expect to be swimming near a 16-flat by conference time," Lien said. This time would put the freshmen in contention with the distance swimmers, but would not start to touch the strength of UT or SMU.

"It did help to swim in the pool that's going to be used for conference," said Lien. "It gives you a mental picture of what to prepare for. The pool has a good feel and atmosphere."

Another record was broken by senior Steve Moore, in an event he did not want to swim until this meet. Moore bettered Larry Schueckler's old record by .07 seconds in the 400-yard individual relay.

"Moore's swim gave the team the confidence and inspiration to make a good swim individually. He set the pace," said assistant coach Schueckler.

"The team swam about as well as could be expected swimming tired

and about ready to taper," said Fosdick.

The coaches from the other schools are going to have to consider A&M a threat at conference, said Schueckler. He said that previous to the SMU showing, most SWC coaches thought A&M wouldn't have a chance at a fourth place finish.

"When we swam UH earlier, they had shaved down and tapered and beat us, but at SMU we were even and we beat them (UH)," said Schueckler.

The final team scores at the SMU meet were SMU 707, A&M 371, UH 347, UTA 183 and OSU 115.

# Wrestlers beat Texas Tech before home crowd of 4,000

Before nearly 4,000 fans in G. Rolie White Coliseum, the Texas A&M Wrestling team outpointed Texas Tech 23-19.

The Red Raiders were rated the number one wrestling team in the state prior to the match.

The Aggies built an early lead and held on to the finish despite losing points by forfeiting a match in the 177-pound class.

Frank Cox of A&M pinned Dick Gaston in 5:40 in the 118-pound competition. Bobby Hines decided Phil Albrecht 6-1 in the 126-pound class and Karl Armstrong won a 11-3 Walker decision over David in the 134-pound match.

In the 142-pound division, Bob Bearden decided Tad Fowler of Tech 12-6 in a last minute comeback. Tim Caulton drew Tech's Allen Atnip 0-0 in the 150-pound class.

Mark Farris needed only five minutes to pin the Aggie's Robert Fisher in the 158-pound division while Blair Monhollen and Melvin Robinson drew in the 167-pound class.

Texas A&M's John Manning defeated Joe Chappell in a 5-4 decision. Tech's Dera Monroe decided Richard Linn in the heavyweight class by a 6-0 margin.

The Aggie's season record now moves to 7-4 with the victory and puts them in serious contention to repeat as state titlists.

The next competition for the wrestling team will be the state tournament although arrangements may be completed soon for another pre-basketball game match for this weekend.

# A&M tennis team whips Sam Houston

The Texas A&M University tennis team upped its season record to 3-1 with a victory over Sam Houston State University Friday.

The Aggies won all six singles matches and the three doubles matches in defeating Sam Houston 9-0.

In the number one singles match, the Aggie's Mike Mendenhall defeated Larry Holdoff 6-3, 6-2. Tom Courson beat Mark Smith 6-2, 6-4 in the number two match. The third match saw Mark Silberman defeat Stewart Morrison 6-3, 6-3 while Mark Parker beat Scott Partridge 6-2, 6-2 in the fourth match. Roger Farris defeated Billy Koster 2-6, 7-6, 6-3 and John Kirwan beat Armando Abney 6-1, 6-2.

The Aggies were without the services of their number one singles player Charles Emley. Emley missed the action because of the flu.

In the doubles matches, Moss and Courson of A&M defeated Smith and Koster 6-4, 6-3. In the second doubles match Kirwan and Parker defeated Holdoff and Partridge 6-4, 6-4. In the final doubles match Silberman and Baker beat Morrison and Abney 6-2, 6-0.

"The caliber of competition we've played has been much tougher than Sam Houston's," said Aggie Coach Richard Barker. "We've simply played tougher competition and it showed in Friday's matches."

The previous weekend, the Aggie tennis team competed in the Lamar University Tennis Tournament in Beaumont. Playing in the tournament with A&M and Lamar were Houston Baptist and North Texas State University. The Aggies lost to Lamar 8-3, defeated Houston Baptist 9-0 and beat North Texas 9-0.

The Aggie's next action is Wednesday against a strong team from Southwestern Louisiana in College Station. The matches begin at 1:30.

"Southwestern will be real tough," Coach Barker said. "They'll probably be one of our toughest opponents so far this season."

# Women's swim team coasts in tournament

The A&M women swimmers had an over 100-point margin in taking the TCU invitational meet in a breeze this past weekend.

The TCU meet is held annually as a prelude to the State meet which will be held Feb. 26-28 at Texas Tech.

The TCU meet was high-lighted by Jeannie Buckle's national qualifying time in the 200-yard backstroke. She swam a 2:17.8 becoming the A&M record-holder in the event. This makes Buckle's second qualifying time. She also has qualified for the 100-yard backstroke.

The team now begins its tapering in preparation for the state meet.

"The women's team looks stronger every year," said Larry Schueckler assistant swim coach. "As the program builds, good talent will seek A&M out."

The women expect most attention to come from the UT. Eight of the 19 events offered are dominated by UT swimmers. A&M comes into strong competition for records as the state record set last year.

# Sonny Parker selected SWC player of week

DALLAS — Sonny Parker, A&M's indispensable senior forward, has been named Southwest Conference basketball Player of the Week, the conference headquarters announced Monday.

Parker helped the Aggies atop the SWC title chase pumped in 24 points in a losing effort to Southern Methodist, answered with another 24 points in the Aggie's important victory day over second-place Texas Tech. He also handed out 10 assists. Parker's scoring average rose to 20.9 per game and a number 40 nationally.

Defensively, Parker took challenge of Rick Bullock in the second half against Tech, holding the big Raider center to five points that period.

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