

Ailing Aggies perform well

By PAUL McGRATH
Battalion Staff Writer

The Texas A&M track team sniffed and coughed its way through the Meet of Champions at the Rice Owls, led by Jeff Wells and Zoe Simpson, came up with a strong early season performance. The Owls took five firsts and four seconds in the 18-event meet hosted by the University of Houston in antiquated Jeppesen Stadium. Simpson won the 100-yard dash in a fine time of 9.4, and anchored the

second place Rice sprint relay quartet.

Wells, a two-time all-America in track and cross country, won the three-mile in the excellent early season time of 13:49.2. The Owl senior also ran the mile leg on the distance medley relay which took second to Texas Tech.

The Aggie hurdlers fared well in the 16-team competition. Walk-on John Salisbury won the 440-yard intermediate hurdles with teammate Curtis Collier placing fifth. Salisbury

was clocked at 53.9 and Collier at 54.5. Shifton Baker and Harold Baker ran 14.3 and 14.4 respectively to take fourth and fifth in the 120-yard high hurdles.

Coach Charles Thomas said he was pleased with the times, noting that many of his sprinters were suffering from flu symptoms. The relay teams were a conglomeration of hurdlers, half-milers and less than healthy sprinters. The Aggies were third in the sprint relay (41.6), fifth in the distance medley (10:18.0), third in

the 880-yard relay (1:27.7) and fourth in the two-mile relay (7:42.8).

Thomas is blessed with an abundance of young half-milers. "All of them are running real well but no particular one has caught fire yet," Thomas said. Joel Vogt, one of three freshmen half-milers, has thus far been obtaining the best times. However Thomas looks for South African Tony Wheeler to get into form soon.

The ranks of the A&M sprinters, already low to begin with, were decreased again by injury to Charles Dawson and the illness of Chuck Butler. Thomas said he was very pleased with the performance of Ray Brooks and Gregory Clark in the relays. Brooks also ran a 9.8 in the 100 for fourth place.

The Aggies were without two key athletes in the field events: pole vaulter Brad Blair and weightman Frank West, who were absent due to an academic field trip. Steve Stewart finished fifth in the discus with a toss of 162-1/2. Craig Carter threw the shot 51-11/2, for third in that event; and Bill Newton had a 215-4 throw in the javelin for second place.

The Aggies will visit Laredo this weekend to compete in the Border Olympics. Since all Southwest Conference schools except Arkansas will be present, the meet should be an early indicator of where the strengths lie amongst conference competitors.

Sam Houston next stop for undefeated baseballers

By PAT EDMONDSON
Battalion Staff Writer

The baseball team jumped on Abilene Christian University for 11 hits in the opener and Robert Bonner's sacrifice fly in the second game enabled the Aggies to complete a double-header sweep, 8-3 and 3-2.

The hardballers relied on many ACU miscues in the nightcap as they could muster but one hit in the dull, low-scoring contest.

The victories kept the Ags record unblemished at 6-0. ACU fell to a 1-6 mark.

In the first game freshman Mark Thurmond triggered a second inning rally by propelling a double off the right field fence. Third baseman Winston Whiddon walked and John Biersner and Buddy Grobe each singled for their first runs batted in of

the year.

A&M burst for five additional runs in the fourth inning as Wildcat pitcher Joe Delgado walked the first three batters.

Mike Lehrmann relieved his erratic teammate and quickly yielded the damage which buried the Wildcats. Bonner sacrificed in a run and first baseman Kirk Campbell lashed a two-run double down the left field line to put the Aggies ahead, 6-0.

After designated hitter Randy Blanchard hit the top of the fence in deep center scoring two more runs, Lehrmann was lifted and Jeff Ammerman came in to halt the uprising.

James "Hoot" Gibson won his third game in as many appearances, scattering two hits and chalking up four strikeouts.

Alan Wilson relieved the final two innings and earned his second save of

the season.

In the second game, both squads suffered from poor hitting. A&M got an early break though, which gave them the eventual edge.

After Clint Thomas was shelled for a two-run homer in the top of the first inning, the Farmers squared the game at 2-2 when ACU pitcher Ray Nunez tossed two consecutive wild pitches with Tommy Larsen and Bonner on base. Blanchard then was credited with an RBI on a single, scoring Bonner. Nunez was again responsible for an A&M tally the next inning. Verde opened with a walk and Nunez overthrew the first baseman on a pick-off attempt. Verde dashed to third and scored on Bonner's sacrifice to clinch a 3-2 win for the Aggies.

Thomas was on target all afternoon as he gave up two hits in seven innings and fanned six. His record was extended to 2-0.

"I hesitated to let him (Clint) go that long," said Coach Tom Chandler. "But the only way our pitchers are gonna get in shape is to work."

The team travels to Huntsville to tangle with Sam Houston State University today and will host Louisiana Tech in a double-header Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Women cagers prepare for state title tournament

By CAROLYN BLOSSER
Battalion Staff Writer

The women's basketball team is preparing for the State Basketball Tournament coming up this weekend in Nacogdoches.

A total of 16 teams will be entered in the single elimination tournament. Stephen F. Austin, Wayland, Baylor, and the University of Texas at Arlington look to be the teams to beat.

Coach Kay Don feels her team will be a top contender for the title.

"I think we're definitely among the top five teams," said Don. "We should have as good a chance as anyone to win."

This past weekend the Aggies traveled to Waco where they took second place in the Zone Tournament behind the first place winner Baylor Bearettes.

The Aggies began play Thursday night, squeezing past Sam Houston State University 63-62. Margaret Byrne was the high scorer with 19 points. Cissy Auclair scored 13 while Sally Morris and Carol McAllister each hit 10.

In their next game the following day, the Ags fell to a powerful Baylor offense 83-58. Suzi Snider, the always dangerous Bearette center, scored 26 of Baylor's points. Diane Quitta led the scoring for the Ags

with 14 points, followed by Byrne's 12.

The Aggies still had a chance to win first in the double elimination tournament. Their next game found them again facing Sam Houston State in another close battle. The Ags came out on the winning end of a 55-54 score. Morris and McAllister were the high Ag scorers with 17 and 11 points, respectively.

Saturday, A&M again faced Baylor in a showdown to decide the tournament winner. The Bearettes, behind the 27-point production of Snider, again proved to be too much for the Aggies, as they won 76-56 to secure the tournament title.

INTRAMURALS

INDEPENDENT: High Flyers vs. Honky Tonk B, 1-10; Cow Patty Daddies vs. Mushrooms, 14-6; No Names vs. Pi Sigma Bets, 0-15; Over the Hill Gang vs. GRAB, 14-7; Weatherman vs. Bang-Gang, 2-3; Wheat Brother vs. Alkies, 11-10; Casa de Sol vs. Vet I Hustlers, 17-18; Big Birds vs. Booneville Poachers, 8-7; Wild Cards vs. Flounders, 11-12; Genetics vs. Vet I Shudders, 3-15; Schlabotniks vs. Clippers, 9-6; 6-Packs vs. ASAE, 15-7; Parkway vs. Ir-regulars, 4-14; Uranus vs. Dunn No. 2, 6-9; ABC vs. Jokers, 2-11; Bandits vs. Mexico, 11-3.



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