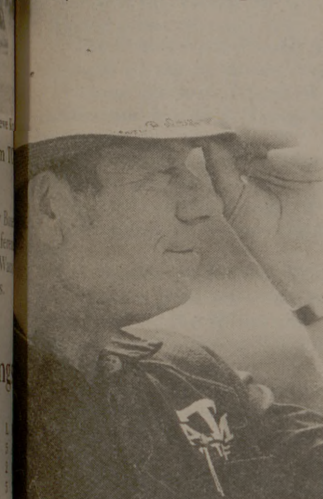


Records fall as Ags place second to Bears at Relays

By PAUL McGRATH
Battalion Sports Editor

Charles Thomas' track team placed a handful of points short of first as the Baylor Bears successfully defended their reign as champions of the College Station Relays.



Charles Thomas
Texas A&M Track Coach

The Relays, Rice followed with 53, Houston 22, Louisiana Tech 18, TCU 17 1/2 and TCU 15.

At the meet records fell, including eight of 10 in the running events. Coachman Tony Wheeler and sophomore Manfred Kohrs, both from African, established new school and school marks in the 880-yard run, mile and three-mile. Wheeler erased Willie Blackmon's record of 1:49.0 with a blistering 1:48.7 performance. Wheeler commanded the entire race and held off a last gasp charge by Baylor's McClendon.

Kohrs, who ran a total of five miles today, set school marks in both three-mile races. His 4:07.2 mile cut three seconds off the old mark set by Frank Ybarbo in 1971, though he finished third behind Wells of Rice and Walker Lea of TCU.

Kohrs then returned a few moments later to run in the three-mile. He finished second, again to Wheeler, at 14:00.0, chopping seven seconds off the week-old record of Kyle Heffner. However, Wheeler placed fourth in the event to provide enough cushion to hold off

the surprising A&M thinclads. Charles Cottle ran a 14:08.0, but was unable to grab any points.

The Aggies fared well in the field events, winning the discus, shot put and javelin and placing strongly in the pole vault. Frank West had his best throw of the year, 55-5 1/2, to take his third win in a row. Teammates Craig Carter (52-3) and Randy Scott (51-10) placed third and fourth.

Bill Newton won the javelin with a throw of 223-9 feet, his best of the year, and Steve Stewart outdistanced the Rice weightmen in the discus with a throw of 169-8 feet. Brad Blair placed second in the pole vault at 16-0 feet with fellow vaulters Jon Harrington and Pat Ruehle placing third and fifth.

Despite bad handoffs, the A&M sprint relay team of Charles Butler, Gregory Clark, Charles Dawson and Ray Brooks posted a 40.5 clocking, their best thus far in the season. Hurdler Shifton Baker continued to bring his times down with a 14.0 in the 120-yard highs and a 52.9 in the 440-yard intermediates. Craig MacPhail also had a 52.9, good for third place.

Walter Jachimowicz ran his best mile ever in the prelims, a 4:11.63, despite having been asleep until 25 minutes before the race. The freshman ran a 4:11.9 in the finals for fifth place.

Brooks, who anchored the sprint relay, ran a 21.3 for fourth in the 220-yard dash.

Baylor used their strength in the high jump, long jump, quarter, half-mile and mile relay to edge the Ags. The Bears finished one-two in the high jump and long jump, one-two-four in the 440, two-three-four in the 880 and ran the Southwest Conference's best time thus far in the mile relay.

The Bears qualified five of the eight runners in the 440 with Mark Collins leading the Green and Gold parade with a 46.11, the best in the SWC this year. The Bears then ran a 3:09.35 in the four lap event without Collins amongst the quartet because of a cramp.

It was a two-man show for the Rice Owls as Wells and sprinter Zoe Simpson emerged double winners. Wells' diving effort in the mile nipped Lea, and his 13:45.1 in the three-mile set a meet record. Simpson also set two marks with a 20.5 in the 220 and a 9.27 in the 100-yard dash.

Thomas was pleased with the performance of his team and cited the good weather as being one reason for the drop in times. Thomas said he hopes to get sprinter Sam Dierschke off the sick list soon and to have his high jumpers and long jumpers come around. He also noted with some pleasure that half of the Aggies' points were scored by freshmen and sophomores, encouraging for next year, he said.

The Aggies travel to Dallas this weekend for the Dallas Invitational along with Baylor, SMU and Texas as well as perennial national power Tennessee. This meet, which was canceled last year due to foul weather, will determine qualifiers for the Texas Relays one week later.

A&M Consolidated finished fourth in the high school division to three AAAA teams with 55 points, the most for a AAA team at the Relays. Coach James Giese's Tigers placed second in the 880-yard relay (1:29.6), third in the two-mile relay (7:56.6), third in the four-mile relay (18:39.78) and fourth in the 440-yard relay (43.4). Reggie Carr took third for the Tigers with a 9.9 clocking in the 100-yard dash.

Dallas Lake Highlands won the prep division while taking firsts in the high jump, two-mile relay, distance medley relay, four-mile relay and the mile. Richland's Tim Scott was a double winner in the shot and discus with throws of 60-1 1/4 and 174-4 feet. Navasota's Jesse James and Houston Sterling's Kent Figgs thrilled the fans with their duels in the 120-yard high hurdles and 330-yard intermediate hurdles. Figgs won the highs in .05 of a second over James and lost to the Navasota senior by .1 of a second in the intermediates.



Polevaulter Pat Ruehle is silhouetted against the evening sky as he takes his warm-up attempts. Photo by Chris Svatek

Dowd selected as UT assistant

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Tex. — Barry Dowd, former head basketball coach at the University of Texas-Arlington, was named Monday an assistant coach at the University of Texas at Austin.

Athletic Director Darrell Royal, who earlier hired Abe Lemons of Pan American to be the Longhorns' head basketball coach, said Dowd would be Lemons' chief assistant.

Dowd is the incoming first vice president of the American Basketball Coaches Association. Lemons is the current first vice president and the incoming president of the organization. So, the next two presidents of the coaches association will come from the University of Texas.

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