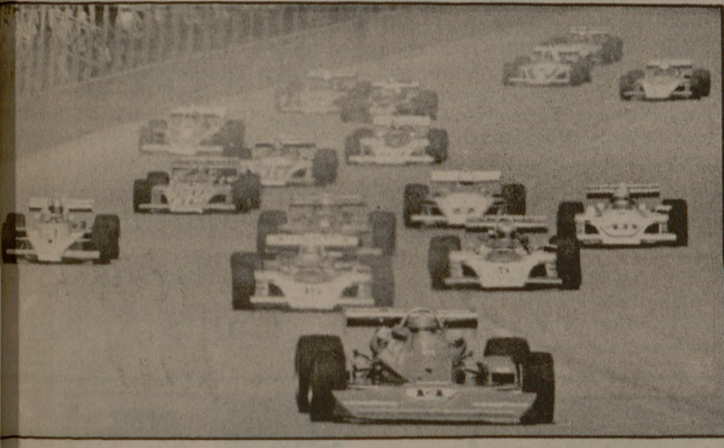


Indy cars head up Texas Twin 150's



The Indy cars invade Texas World Speedway for the first time in two years. The running of the Texas Twin 150's marks the return of the high-powered vehicles. The A. J. Foyt-Johnny Rutherford duel should highlight the race.

By CARL KEY
Battalion Staff

The theory that Texans can ride anything, be it a horse going hell for leather or a well tuned racing machine at full throttle, faster than any other human will be put to proof this weekend.

Texas A.J. Foyt of Houston and Johnny Rutherford of Ft. Worth will be among the top contenders in the Texas Twin 150 held at the Texas World Speedway.

The last Indy car race to be held at the Speedway was in October 1973 with the winning car running at an average speed of 181 miles per hour, which has been listed in the Guinness Book of Records.

The Texas Twin 150 will be a 150 mile race of Indy cars followed by a 150 mile race of late-model stock cars.

Speeds for the Indy cars is expected to exceed 200 miles per hour

and speeds for the stock cars is hoped to pass 170 miles per hour.

Foyt said that more than 10 of the Indy cars have the capability to run in the neighborhood of 210 miles per hour, and he expects a real scramble for the prestigious pole position and its accompanying \$1,000 check.

With six United States Auto Club driving championships under his belt, Foyt is first in the club's all-time point standings.

Foyt finished first in the Texas 500 held earlier this season, and will be driving the same car in the stock car half of the Twin 150.

Rutherford was the winner of the Indianapolis 500 this year and is shooting for his first national championship.

He placed second for the past two years in points accumulated by the auto club.

Two women in the Twin 150 are Martha Wideman and Arlene Hiss,

both of whom competed in the Texas 500.

Wideman, a native of Lufkin and a mother of two teenagers, is the wife of a former race driver Glen Wideman.

"I told my husband I could drive better than all the women and most of the men," she said. "He dared me to try it so I took his car and won my first race in 1964."

A high school teacher from Dana Point, California, Hiss began her racing career in 1963.

She is the first woman ever to qualify for a major stock car race at better than 158 miles per hour. Hiss finished ninth in the Texas 500.

Activity at the Speedway starts with practice sessions on Friday, qualifications on Saturday and the two 150 mile races Sunday, August 1.

Ticket prices are \$15 and \$20 for

reserved seats, \$10 for adult unreserved seats with \$5 for children between six and 12 years of age and \$5 for adult infield tickets with \$2 for children.

A live on-stage entertainment will

be provided for the camper-racegoer in the Speedway infield and the Sipolt Brothers, the World's Youngest Daredevils will perform during a pre-race program that starts at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Sapenter breaks 400-meter records

Debra Sapenter, Prairie View A&M University English instructor, set a new American record and passed the Olympic record in the women's 400 meter qualifying rounds Monday, while two other PVAM team members at Montreal won honors for homeland Jamaica.

Sapenter blazed to a 51.23 timing in the second round of qualifiers for the 400 meter, winning her heat and posting the best time among winners.

The 24-year-old PVAM graduate, now a freshman English teacher, smashed her own American AAU record of 51.6 and crushed the former American record of 51.64 set by Kathy Hammond at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Her time Monday also surpassed the official Olympic 400 meter mark of 52.0 set in 1964 by Betty Cuthbert of Australia and again in 1968 by Colette Besson of France.

Carol Cummings, a May graduate of PVAM, advanced to the women's 200 meter quarterfinals by capturing fifth in her heat with 23.50 seconds.

Cummings and PVAM junior Andrea Bruce, this past year's top PVAM athlete, are competing for Jamaica.

Monday, Bruce placed 17th in the pentathlon long jump, clearing 18 1/2 feet. Sunday, she won the pen-

tathlon high jump and placed fifth in the 100 meter hurdles.

Four of the eight members of the women's national championship team are at Montreal from Prairie View A&M. Temple freshman Aarthurine Gainer, an alternate, is the fourth member.

Aggies sign fem swimmer Susie Lynde

The Woman's Swim Team has signed Susie Lynde on scholarship.

Lynde, a transfer student from Fullerton College, has been a national level competitor for the last six years.

She is expected to be one of the top swimmers on the woman's team, competing in both the 200 and 400 yard individual medleys as well as backstroke, butterfly and middle distance freestyle.

Her former coach, James Montiella, is one of the U.S. Olympic Woman's Swim Coaches.

She will be joining a former teammate of the Lakewood Swim Club, Jeannie Buckles, who was an outstanding freshman swimmer on the woman's team last year.

Secondary possible weak spot

By PAUL McGRATH
Battalion Staff

Last season marked the first time in three years the Aggies failed to lead the Southwest Conference in pass defense. It was the chief flaw in an almost perfect defense.

Texas A&M was third behind Baylor and Arkansas in defending against aerial attack, the only category that Defensive Co-ordinator Melvin Robertson's contingent failed to capture in the SWC as well as the nation.

Opposing quarterbacks struck for 4,139 yards on the Aggie secondary, six times finding the end zone. The Maroon and White surrendered an average of 103 yards per outing via the air.

However, the results were not so grim as they appear.

The veteran Aggie secondary, consisting of all-America Pat Thomas, his cousin Jackie Williams, Willie Thompson and big play artist Lester Hayes, allowed a completion ratio of only 35 per cent, lowest in the league. Texas A&M's secondary has runner up to the Texas Longhorns in pass thievery, swiping 18 enemy aerials.

However, most analysts still view

the A&M defensive backfield as the achilles heel of what otherwise is a stalwart defense.

Leaving for the ranks of the professionals are Thomas and Williams; Thomas joining another Aggie all-America, Dave Elmendorf, with the Los Angeles Rams.

Robertson is faced with the problem of developing a youth movement to replete the losses in the secondary. Fortunately, he has a firm nucleus to build upon with the return of Thompson and Hayes.

Hayes has been touted for possible all-conference and all-America honors. The 6-1, 208 lb. senior from Houston Wheatley has a flourish for being in the right spot at the right time. Twice he returned fumbles for touchdowns last season, his first campaign at safety after lettering twice previously at linebacker.

Hayes tied for the conference lead in interceptions with an even half dozen. He also smothered a punt against Rice, one of several turnaround plays that changed a competitive game into a runaway.

Possessing excellent speed, having been timed at 9.4 in the 100, Hayes is extremely difficult to beat deep. His size also makes him almost impossible to throw over. Hayes has retained some of that linebacker instinct in playing the run, becoming a headhunter who punishes enemy runners. There is little wonder why pro scouts are already licking their chops at the sight of Hayes.

The other returning veteran finds himself in much the same position

as former teammate Jackie Williams. Underrecognition has overshadowed Willie Thompson's generous amount of talent. Then, it would be quite a task for anyone to grab many headlines in the company of Thomas, Tim Gray and James Daniels', all stellar performers.

Thompson became steady and solid at his corner position in 1975. Most opponent game plans called for an assault at Thompson, considering him the weak link in the A&M secondary. This strategy proved as successful as Napoleon's winter operations.

The smallest, 5-9, 180 lb. senior out of El Paso swiped three passes last autumn, including two game clinchers against Texas. The tutelage of Thomas and Williams instilled confidence into the three-year letterman who backs off from no one.

Mike Williams (6-0, 183 lbs.) and junior college transfer Wadine Miles (5-11, 186 lbs.) will compete for the cornerback spot opposite Thompson. Both are considered fine athletes by Robertson. Williams injured a knee last year but has since recovered nicely. Spelling Thompson at his corner post will be 6-0, 195 lb. Charles Bell.

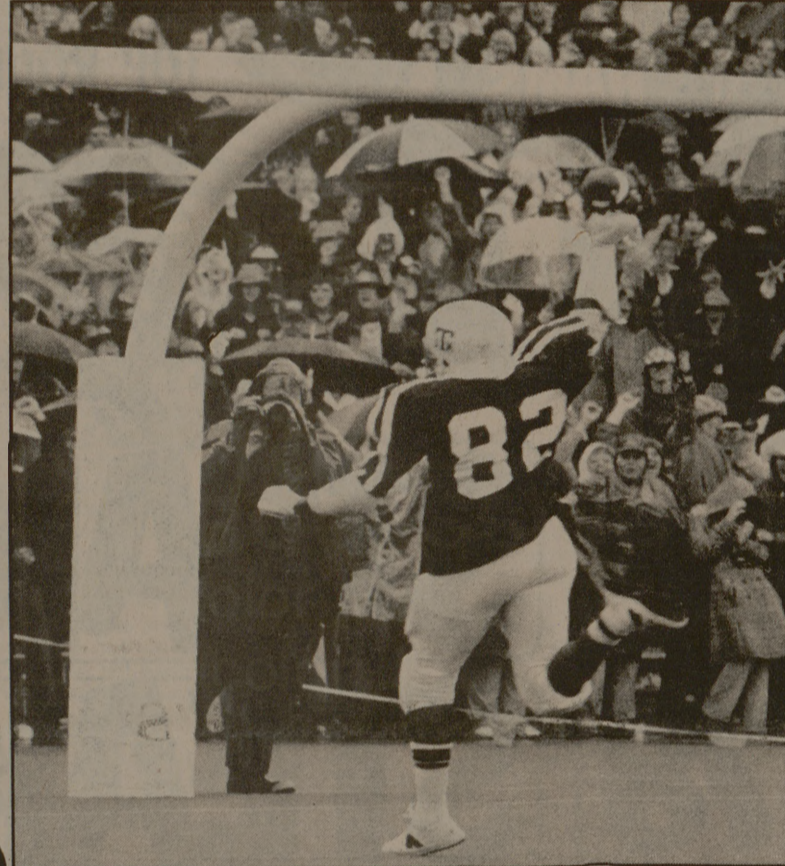
Reggie Williams (6-2, 190 lbs.) and Larry Johnson (6-3, 197 lbs.) are slated for the other safety position, with only Williams having any previous experience. Carl Grulich (6-0, 188 lbs.) will back up Hayes.

"It just takes experience,"

Robertson said. "These guys are intense—they've got a lot of pride and confidence. I think they'll come along darned quick."

The Aggies will have added support in speedsters Ralph Barrett and Jimmy Hamilton, the only freshman defensive back recruited this

spring. Barrett transferred from Blinn Junior College while Hamilton was snatched from under the noses of LSU scouts, graduating from New Orleans West Jefferson. Both Barrett and Hamilton have been timed in the 4.5-4.6 neighborhood for the 40.



Texas A&M safety Lester Hayes jaunts jubilantly into the end zone with a Baylor fumble for one of his many big plays of 1975. Hayes will be one of the keys to an Aggie secondary which many say is the top pitfall of the team. Only one other starter, Willie Thompson, returns to help firm up a rather inexperienced group. Staff Photo

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