

# Ag tracksters to host triangular meet Saturday

By PAUL MCGRATH  
Following a disappointing showing in the 50th Texas Relays last weekend, Coach Charles Thomas' Texas A&M track squad will host Lamar University and Louisiana State University in a triangular meet this Saturday.

Lamar features hurdler Monroe Ford who has been close on the heels of A&M's Shifton Baker in several meetings this season.

The Cardinals of Coach Sonny Jolly are strong in the sprints and relays. Intermediate hurdler Daniel

Stagg offers Baker stern competition in that race.

LSU is headed by sprinter Charles Alexander, formerly of Calveston Ball High. The Bayou Bengals will also be strong in the high jump and shot put.

The Aggies could finish no higher

than fourth in any of the individual or relay events at Austin.

Baker ran his best time of the year in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles, clocking a 50.98 and finished fourth. Arizona State's Richard Walker, who placed second at the national meet last year and

third in the high hurdles at the Relays, won in 49.90. Stagg was third in 50.90.

Baker, A&M's high point man last season and well on his way to repeating in his senior season, was fifth in 110-meter highs in 14.11. Gary Burl, another Arizona State performer, won the highs in 13.75. Ricky Davenport of Southern University, younger brother of Olympian hurdler Willie Davenport, was second in 13.82.

In posting his best time of the year in the intermediates, Baker had problems with the second and fourth hurdles. The Elgin senior had to shorten his stride, costing him from placing higher.

Texas A&M's Steve Stewart and Tim Scott were sixth and seventh in the discus with 175-6 and 171-1 foot efforts.

The A&M two-mile relay quartet of Jim Brannen, Tony Wheeler, Tom Glass and Joel Vogt ran a 7:31.52 for fifth place. Wheeler had A&M in first temporarily, but Glass ran his first lap too fast and lost a lot of ground on the last 220 yards of his leg.

The Aggies also entered sprint

medley and 880-relay teams, but they failed to qualify for the finals.

While Johnny "Lam" Jones was providing the show and delighting the 15,000 or so sun-drenched fans, the Arizona State Sun Devils were capturing team honors at the Relay's golden anniversary.

Jones ran a world record 9.85 in the 100-meter dash, only to have it mired in controversy because the electronic timer broke down, thus the race was forced to be hand-timed. To the regret of the partisan crowd and Jones, hand times are no longer accepted as valid by the international track federation.

Arizona State won both of the hurdles events with Burl and Walker clearing the barriers and won two of the three most highly sought relay races.

The Sun Devils, led by Olympian Herman Frazier, won the 880-yard relay in the Relays record time of 1:21.66, eclipsing by four-one hundredths, the old record held by Texas A&M. Frazier was expected to be challenged by Jones in the race, but bad carries by Texas' first three runners caused the match-up to never materialize.

A mishandling of the baton during the sprint relay caused a change to be out of the legal zone and Arizona State was disqualified from the race.

However, the Sun Devils came back with a vengeance in the relay. Running at near world pace, Arizona State clocked 3:02.8, shattering the Relay's record by four seconds. Their time was the second fastest time ever, was four-one hundredths of a world mark held by a quarter-century-old American Olympian since 1900.

The Sun Devil's splits were: Clifton McKinzie, 45.8; Gerald Burl, 45.8; Tony D. 45.1 and Frazier, 45.0.

Arkansas' Niall O'Shaughnessy ran a 3:55.4 mile anchor leg, the Razorbacks a record 9:22.2 the distance medley.

Earl Bell of Arkansas cleared 17-8 feet to win the vault and Missouri's Neil jumped 7-3 to win the high. Former Rice star Ken Stabach cleared 218-6 in the discus for his best throw in winning that



Referee Tony King watches as Texas A&M and Corpus Christi scrum-off during a rugby game held last Saturday.

The Aggies went on to win 26-0.

Battalion photo by Ernie Gill

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# Sneva wins Texas 200

By BO GRIFFIN

Race fans from all over the United States waded through the mud, the crud, and the slow Saturday at the Texas World Speedway to see Tom Sneva win the famed Texas Grand Prix.

The 28-year-old Sneva, a former high school math and P.E. teacher from Spokane, Wash., captured first place by coming in a car length ahead of Al Unser.

Sneva attributed his win to attrition. Because of rain, practice for the pole position was not held so the car positions were determined by the drivers drawing from a hat.

Coincidence, or maybe an omen, came early in the race for Sneva. Sneva, whose car number is eight, drew the eighth starting position for the race.

"Lone Star J. R." (Johnny Rutherford) drew the pole position. Gordon Johncock, who bloodied Rutherford's nose in last week's Phoenix 150, drew the second starting position. Following them was Al Unser, Panch Carter, A. J. Foyt, Tom Bigelow, Roger McCluskey and Sneva.

The race started 19 cars, with only nine finishing the 200-mile race.

A. J. Foyt took the lead on the second lap and held it until he developed radiator trouble leaving the race on the 58th lap.

After a green flag started the 63rd lap, Hawaiian Danny Ongais lost his transaxle (rear end) on turn four of the two mile oval.

Ongais lost it on the turn, spun out, hit the infield railing, slid through the mud and finally came to a stop without injury in front of the press box about 200-yards from the initial spot.

Johncock, also having radiator problems, went out on lap 91. After the green flag started the 95th lap, veteran Al Unser took the lead. Unser couldn't hold it though, and on turn three of the 97th lap his Parnelli/VPI Turbo lost out to Sneva. Sneva went on to win the Texas Grand Prix, out running Unser to the checkered flag by two seconds.

"We had to turn the booster up after Al (Unser) passed on the restart," Sneva said. "I turned it up to 85 inches, the most I've ever run it at. But it worked even a little better than Al's and I was able to win. I took a chance because the booster gauge wasn't working right all day. I couldn't turn it down below 73 inches and I was worried all day about the fuel situation. It responded when I needed it."

"Everyone ran well today. There was a lot of good passing going on out there and that's what makes it exciting for the drivers. The track was a little rough in places, but plenty of passing room. We didn't get in much practice so we weren't

able to out-engineer ourselves laughingly said.

When asked if anyone threatened to punch him in the nose, Sneva said, "No, but I did talk boxing lessons while getting in shape."

The win gave Sneva his career win. His first win was in Michigan in 1975.

It was also a milestone for the Cosworth engine, which won last week when Rutherford took the Phoenix 150.

Because of the track conditions, Mario Andretti's Texas Speedway record of 214 mph was not broken.

The cars' average speed in the half of the race was clocked at 115 miles per hour.

When asked if this was as big a win as he had ever come, Sneva sipping a beer, replied, "No matter of fact I went over to the Friday to play some handball. A little trouble getting in because I didn't have an ID card, but I would like to consider myself an Aggie."

The win for Sneva places him in Citicorp Cup point standings behind Al Unser, A. J. Foyt, Rutherford and Tom Bigelow, respectively.

## Furbish loutwort stops conservation

WASHINGTON — Conservation of a \$1.3 billion hydroelectric project on the St. John River may be delayed by the furbish loutwort.

The furbish loutwort, a snap dragon, is one of the plants to make the Interior Department's endangered species list as such it may be the billion-dollar project's downfall.

The furbish was declared in the United States in 1943 Smithsonian Institution. In 1967 year Charles Richards, a University of Maine biologist working for the Army Corps of Engineers, found the plants in Allagash Town, Maine.

The Dickey-Lincoln project would flood the banks of the St. John, where the plants were found.

## Colored egg idea came from Africa

NEW YORK — A North American tribe is thought to have originated the custom of coloring eggs at least more than 500 years ago.

Eastern Europeans in relations with Poland and Russia related to an art form. They paint detailed patterns with special dyes, says the research department of the National Association of Egg Card Publishers.

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