



Tom Sneva takes his last pit stop before winning Saturday's Texas Grand Prix at the Texas World Speedway. Sneva's pit crew is adjusting the manifold boost so that Sneva can

utilize more power from his English-designed Cosworth engine.

Battalion photo by Jim Crawley

## Two games rained out

# Aggies top Rice, 4-3

By STEVE MARTAINDALE  
Texas A&M's baseball team picked up a 4-3 win over the Rice Owls Friday, but had the series dampened by rain, erasing for the second time a record-setting performance.

After Mark Ross and John Pockrus combined to pitch the Aggies to the opening win, A&M had Rice's Allan Ramirez on the ropes Saturday before rain washed away a 3-0 lead one inning before it could have entered the record books.

Ramirez, who gathered a lot of attention the previous Sunday when he handed Texas its first loss of the season, was pounded for eight hits in the four innings.

The rains came then. Had the game, scheduled for seven innings, gone through five, it would have been official. As it was, everything was erased from the record books.

Included in the erasure was a home run from catcher Buster Turner. It was not your run-of-the-mill home run, however. This one would have been the 38th of the year for the Aggies, a new team record; the eighth for Turner, to lead the team; and Turner's 18th consecutive game with a safe base hit as he pursues the team record of 19, set last year by shortstop Robert Bonner.

More importantly for the Aggies may be the loss of two possible wins.

The Aggies will be hosting league-leading Texas this weekend to decide the Southwest Conference championship. Texas will bring an 11-1 conference record into the series while the Aggies are 13-3.

Ross struck out seven Owls and walked only one in the nine inning

Friday game, but gave up 12 hits. Pockrus relieved Ross for the last out, forcing Stan Hinson to fly out to center with two runners on.

Left fielder Robert Verde led the Ags in hitting, getting three hits out of four at-bats. Verde slammed a home run against Baylor earlier in the week in leading the Aggies to a 9-8 win.

Turner, in extending his hitting streak to 17 games, went 1-for-3 and had two runs batted in.

Center fielder Mike Hurdle, after taking stitches Monday because of an outfield collision with Shelton McMath, was hit by a pitched ball from Jeff Hays. The pitch struck him in the right wrist, bruising tendons and ligaments in his hand. He was fitted with a plastic splint at the game, but will be ready for the Texas series.

## Minnesota native wins dogsled race

NOME, Alaska (UPI) — A Minnesota farm boy who came to Alaska four years ago seeking work on the oil pipeline has won the grueling 1,049-mile Anchorage-to-Nome Iditarod dogsled race.

Rick Swenson, 26, a transplanted trapper who lives at Manley Hot Springs near Fairbanks, completed the race across the rugged Alaskan interior in 16 days, 16 hours, 27 minutes.

This was Swenson's second running of the race to this historic gold mining town on the Bering Sea. He placed 10th last year.

He was cheered on by more than 1,000 persons who gathered in the bitter sub-zero weather after being roused by a fire siren at 1:27 a.m.

Jerry Riley of Nenana, Alaska, last year's winner, placed second, trailing Swenson by about five minutes.

"Swenson's team was strong, real strong," Riley said.

Eleven of the 47 mushers who started the race dropped out, defeated by various difficulties along the frigid trail.

Swenson collected \$10,000 in prize money. Riley won \$6,000.

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# Jones 9.85 world record—almost

By PAUL MCGRATH  
Johnny Jones won the 100-meter and the hearts of the Texas fans by dashing to a hand-drawn 9.85 victory in Austin's Memorial Stadium.

Jones' 9.85 clocking is a world record — almost. The electronic timer, Accutrack, malfunctioned during the race and stopwatches had to be used. The three watches on Jones had him in 9.8, 9.85 and 9.94, all below the record of Jim Hines who had a 9.95 in 1968.

Unfortunately, as of last summer, all hand-timed races below 400-meters are no longer accepted by the international track and field federation. Thus, Jones' record will carry an asterisk.

The four mile an hour aiding wind was under the allowable for possible records.

"I'm just happy to win," Jones said. "Any man in the race could have been on the top."

"I guess I got a pretty good start . . . I couldn't tell," he said. "The timer is just one of those things that happen."

Jones also compounded the dilemma by saying he let up near the end of the race because he was unsure of the finish line. Jones is used to running the 100-yard dash, where he owns the nation's best time of 9.21 this season, which is nearly nine yards shorter than the 100-meter race.

"I let up at the end because I thought I was getting ready to break the tape. . . I couldn't see it, but I could definitely tell I let up a little," Jones said.

Texas Athletic Director Darrell Royal commented, "When Johnny runs, it's a goodbye starter and hello judge."

One table which converts hand-times calls for an addition of .24 seconds which would give Jones a 10.09. However, Texas Coach Cleburne Price said that only .15 seconds are supposed to be added, resulting in a 10.00 clocking.

Jones also ran on Texas' sprint relay team which finished second to Oklahoma in 40.38, anchored the Horns' 880-relay team to a 1:23.83 third place finish and anchored Texas' mile relay foursome with a 44.9 leg for a 3:07.1 and third place. His efforts earned him being tabbed the meet's Outstanding Athlete.

The Lampasas native, a gold medal winner in the Montreal Olympics, turned 19 yesterday. He has a lot of years ahead of him to remove that asterisk.

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