

# Future looks bright for raceway

By WAYNE NELSON

What is the future of the Texas World Speedway?

The racetrack, which has had its share of problems since it was built six years ago, is under new management and according to United States Auto Club (USAC) President Dick King, the status of the track is beginning to live up to its original expectations.

"The speedway has had some hard luck over the past few years, partly because of the weather and

partly because of the location," King said.

"For some reason weather has not been on the side of Texas World Speedway (TWS) very often and I think that it's about time that the rain and auto racing got together and worked out some kind of agreement so that we might have time to run a race."

King also said that the location has not helped the TWS as much as originally expected.

"When the speedway was built,

its location was thought to be ideal because College Station was centrally located between Houston, Dallas, Austin, and San Antonio, but the crowds just have not traveled the distances that we originally expected to see the races," he noted. "We have had similar problems at a racetrack in Michigan, but with time the people began to recognize speedway and the people began to show," King said.

"As soon as the media recognizes that we have a major raceway in College Station, then we feel that the people will soon follow," he said.

King was instrumental in bringing Dick Conole to TWS after the first two owners were unable to keep the speedway out of the red.

"I felt that Conole would be a good man for getting the speedway on its feet, so I talked with him about the job, never telling that it would be easy. But he had done such a good job at Pocono I knew he could do a good job here," King said.

King also discussed the advantages that a major speedway could have to the College Station area.

## Andretti's Car wins at Smithsonian

United Press International WASHINGTON — The backup racing car that was taken out of storage and driven to victory by Mario Andretti when his own car failed in the 1969 Indianapolis 500 is on display at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of History and Technology.

Silent Screamer, the controversial turbocar Pamelli Jones raced in the 1967 Indy 500, is also on display.

Fitted with a light turbine engine that ran on kerosene, the car led every lap until the 197th when it failed with a broken gearbox bearing and finished sixth.

The gift of the STP Corp., they will remain on view until Labor Day.



Battalion photo by Jim Crawley

Texas A&M football coach Emory Bellard may not realize it, but he may have a new training technique for his athletes: Fishing. Wednesday morning, Steve Robinson and A&M athletes Tony Franklin and Robert Bonner went fishing in the Brazos River and returned with a 23-pound blue catfish.

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