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sports

More hours for weight room in heavy demand

By RENEE PEVOTO

Texas A&M students have been complaining that the weight room in DeWare Field House should remain open the same hours as the rest of the field house.

DeWare is open from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m., every day. The racquetball and basketball courts are used for PE classes on weekdays; however, they can be used by students, from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and anytime after 4 p.m.

The weight room is open for student use from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from 12 noon to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Saturdays and Sundays the room may be used from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. These are the hours that were set two years ago by the intramural department, along with the increase last February to include the noon hours.

The athletes at Texas A&M "use the room Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. We need the facilities all day because there are so many athletes that it gets crowded," said Billy Pickard, athletic trainer. "Coach Bellard is letting the intramural department use it the rest of the time. It is a cooperative thing because the intramural department maintains the room."

Scott Logan, a junior finance major, uses the facilities in the weight room.

"I know that the facilities are being used by athletes in the afternoons," Logan said, "but I don't understand why the weight room can't remain open like the rest of the field house. It is so crowded between 7 and 10 at night that it takes a long time to go through the line."

Randy Thompson, a junior engineering technology major who works out approximately four times a week for one and a half hours each time, asked, "Why do they have enough personnel to keep DeWare open from 8 to 2, and not enough to keep the weight room open at the same time?"

Dennis Corrington, director of intramurals, said he wasn't aware that students felt so strongly about the hours of the weight room. "I haven't considered any change because no one has talked to me about it. I need some more input from students on what would be the best times."

Corrington said that since the athletic department lets the intramural department use the equipment, the cost of extra maintenance would have to be considered. The cost of staffing the room with a trained employee is also a factor. "This would

call for \$2.30 per hour minimum for the employee, plus extra maintenance costs," Corrington said.

The money which is allocated to the intramural department comes from the student services fee.

To get the extra funds needed, Corrington would have to go through the physical education department, in the College of Education under Academic Affairs. Academic Affairs would then make the request to Dr. John Koldus, vice-president of student services. Koldus then has to make a request for the money to President Jarvis Miller, only after he has spoken to both Corrington and to the student government. "Miller has the final say in what and how the money will be used," said Koldus.

"Any time a new request comes in, it must be an exceptional thing," Koldus added. "Once you allow an exception without going through all the budgetary procedures, you're opening the door to all possibilities." The official university budget for all departments is worked up every spring.

Both Corrington and Koldus said that it is important to relate to priorities. They said that there are other needs which may need to be met before this particular one.

"I know that the room is being

Hogs doing everything right — even baseball

United Press International

The Southwest Conference is having its closest baseball race in years and last weekend was a typical example of how well the league is balanced this season.

All four of Saturday's double headers were split and the outcome left the league chase in a three-way deadlock between the Baylor Bears, Houston Cougars and the school that seems to be doing everything right these days — Arkansas.

They all have 6-3 records, one game ahead of Texas Tech. And down in fifth place is defending conference champion Texas A&M and way down there tied for seventh is preseason favorite Texas.

For the third straight weekend the Longhorns could manage only one victory in a three-game series — this time with the Aggies.

And as the halfway point in the conference race approaches, three games out of the lead, it itself in the awkward position of trying to scrape just to make one of the top four spots that would earn berth in the league's post-tournament.

Baylor won two of three with Arkansas over the weekend and Houston took two of three. Rice to bring about the tie at top. Texas Tech captured three against TCU.

The wildest series came in where the Razorbacks and Baylor were battling for the league lead. Baylor captured the first game Friday in 10 innings, 12-11, and Saturday both games of the double header were decided late.

Both Arkansas and Baylor three-run leads slip away in opener and it took a home run by Eddie Wallace in the eighth of what had been scheduled seven inning game to bring Hogs a 7-6 victory.

Then, in the second game, pitcher Burl Coker sacrificed the bottom of the fifth production game winner for Baylor in a game that saw Coker also get credit for the victory. He had won opening game of the series as well.

The most controversial of the weekend, however, came in Houston, where Rice's Ramirez threw a one-hitter Saturday in a 4-1 triumph over the Cougars in a 4-1 triumph Saturday.

Rice players and coaches tended the one hit charge Ramirez should have been charged against the second man, who had made an error on a ground ball deep into the hole in the sixth inning and throw the ball away as the runner crossed the bag.

Texas will sit out next weekend conference action, but Baylor visit Houston for a crucial game. The other three-game series schedule will have TCU at Texas, Rice at Texas A&M and Baylor at Texas Tech.

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