

Dickey leads Ag track team

United Press International
AUSTIN, Texas — Burly Texas A&M running back Curtis Dickey raced from behind to give the Aggies a victory in the 400-meter relay Sunday to highlight the finals of the 51st Texas Relays.

Dickey and his teammates — Charles Butler, Ray Brooks and Leslie Kerr — posted a 39.35 winning time in the relay event, giving Dickey a good chance to be named outstanding performer at the relays.

Although no team totals were kept, reporters and meet officials vote on the top performer and top team. The results will be announced Monday.

Dickey, a 6-2, 205-pounder, also raced to the championship in the 100-meter dash on Saturday with a time of 10.22.

Dickey was at about the middle of the pack when he received the baton, then roared past the field for the victory in the 400-meter relay.

"I was in third or fourth place when I received the baton, but our handoff gave me a good running start," said Dickey, who had not been on the track before the meet for two weeks because of spring football drills.

Kerr and other Aggie teammates conceded they could have improved on their relay time with more practice.

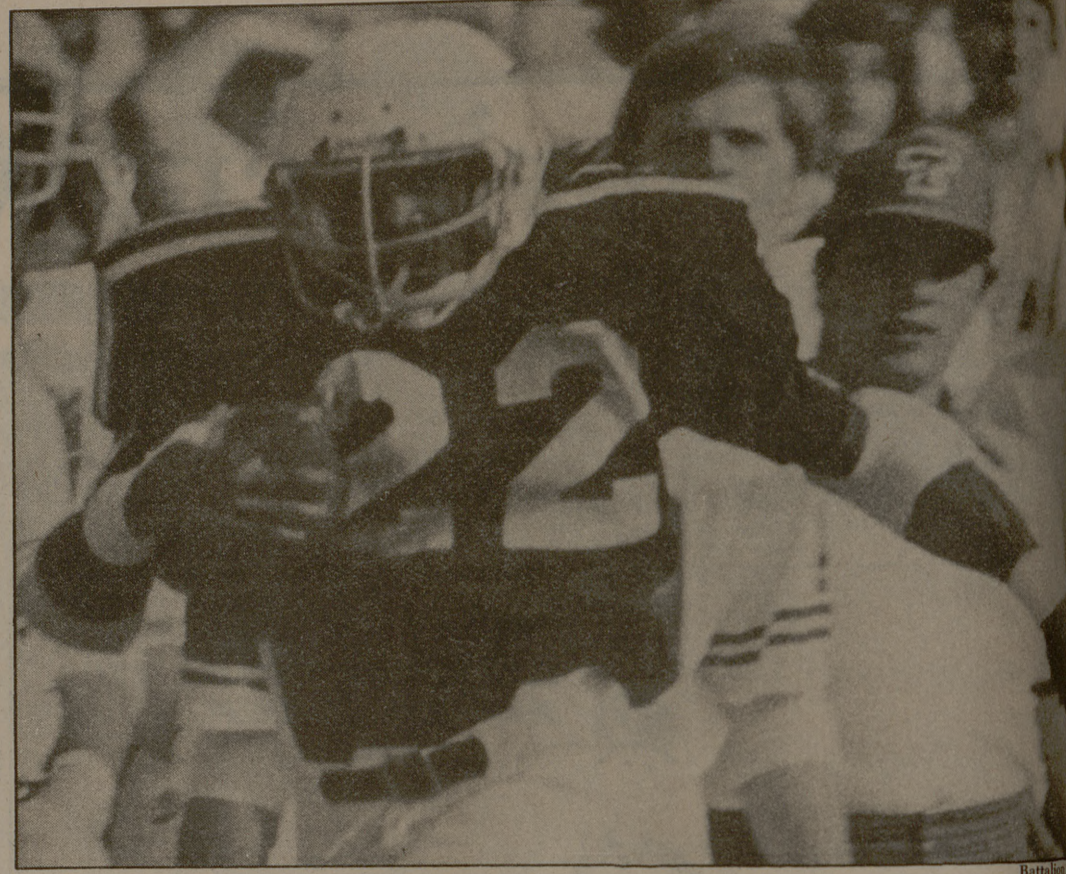
"Brooks ran up on me and our exchange was pretty sorry," Kerr said. "But Dickey and I had a pretty good pass."

Kenyan John Kebero outdistanced the field with a 8:43.02 to capture first place in the 3,000-meter invitational steeple-chase — finishing a full second ahead of New Mexico's Harrison Koroso.

The University of Arkansas, 6,400-meter relay team of Steve Baker, Tom Camien, Michael Lawther and Mark Anderson raced to a 16:28.1 to win the 6,400-meter relay with a 70-yard victory over runnerup Arizona.

Southern University's Ricky Davenport captured first place in the collegiate 110-meter hurdles — with a 13.68 time, edging New Mexico's Fatwel Kimiayo, also a Kenyan, who had won the 400-meter hurdles the day before. Kimiayo also ran a leg on New Mexico's winning distance medley team to earn consideration, along with Dickey, for outstanding performer.

A field of seven runners ran in another main event, the Jerry Thompson Mile Run, but the winner — Randy Wilson of Oklahoma — came in with a relatively slow 406.74.



Texas A&M track star Curtis Dickey — in his fall uniform. In action at the Texas Relays in Austin last weekend, Dickey won the 100-meter invitational dash with a time of 10.22 seconds. The Aggie halfback also anchored the victorious 400-meter relay team.

Handball in the Olympics?

By AVA KING
A freshman from Texas A&M University may represent the United States in the 1980 Olympics in a sport that is relatively new to the Southwest.

The sport is European team handball and the student is Brenna Kerns.

The word "handball" used here is misleading.

"Team handball is not in the remotest way related to handball," said Texas A&M P.E. instructor Mark Noble. "It is so similar to basketball that it's easy to make the transition from basketball to team handball."

The game is played on an indoor court that is longer and wider than a regular basketball court. Each team consists of six court players and one goalie. The object of the game is to advance the ball, which looks like a

small soccer ball, by passing and dribbling. The ball is thrown past the goalie through the goal to score.

Team handball is played much like international basketball with a faster pace and more steps.

"Agile football players and tough basketball players make the best team handball players," Noble said.

The A&M team handball club was organized this semester by Noble. It consists of 23 men and one woman. "But, we are always looking for better talent," Noble said.

Kerns spent all of last week at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., qualifying for the U.S. Women's National Handball Team. Kerns was the youngest player at the training camp and the only one from Texas. The women worked out six hours a day perfecting

the finer points of the game.

"I've never worked so hard in my life," Kerns said. "I broke one finger and jammed another one."

Until she came to A&M last semester, Kerns had never heard of European team handball. In high school she ran cross country track and played baseball.

How did Kerns become interested in this sport?

"Mark (Noble) saw me wearing my letter jacket and asked me if I was good at athletics," she said. "Then he told me about the handball team and gave me a form to fill out."

Kerns will be attending other training camps in preparation for the Olympic trials, which will be televised on NBC. Two other Aggie women applied for the team but were not accepted.

The U.S. Team Handball Federation has invited the A&M team to participate in the 1978 U.S. National Team Handball Championships to

be held at New York's Hofstra University in May. There A&M will be competing against such teams as West Point, the Air Force Academy, and UCLA. Each team is limited to sending 16 players and three staff members.

"I plan to send my best 16 players to New York," Noble said. "I don't care if they are men or women."

The Men's Regional Team Handball Tryouts will be held in June. Fifteen men from each region of the United States (north, south, east and west) will get an all-expense-paid week in Colorado to compete in the National Sports Festival Trials and Team Selection. Out of those 60 men the National Training Team of 20 players will be picked.

Noble hopes that possibly two or four of those chosen will be Aggies.

Plans are under way to make team handball a regular P.E. course and an intramural sport for the fall semester of 1978.

King, Navratilova win ag

United Press International
SALT LAKE CITY — Billie Jean King and Martina Navratilova say they'll now try to extend their tournament winning string this year to eight when they get together for the 1978 Wimbledon women's doubles.

King and Navratilova ran their string of victories to seven in as many starts this year when they won the biggest money prize in women's

doubles — the \$100,000 Bridges- tone.

Their 6-4, 6-4, win over Virginia Wade of England and France's Francoise Durr brought King and Navratilova the \$36,000 first prize, upping Navratilova's winnings for the year to \$232,350 and King's to \$86,025.

In the third place match, 6-foot Betty Stove of Holland and Evonne

Goolagong of Australia beat lians Kerry Reid and Turnbull, 7-5, 6-2, to share Stove and Goolagong broke three times to win the match.

Rosie Casals and JoAnne finished fifth in the eight-stament, winning the consolation with a 6-2, 6-4, win over Stevens and Mona Guerrant. Stevens and Russell shared \$7,000 and Guerrant picked up

Ag soccer team defeats Tech

By STEVE MAYER
The Texas A&M soccer team moved into first place in the Southwest Conference Soccer League by upsetting Texas Tech 3-1 in Lubbock on Saturday.

The Aggie strikers are at three and one, losing only to the University of Texas. While the Aggie still face TCU, Baylor, Rice and Houston, the win over Tech places the conference championship within the

grasp of the team.

Poor team play early in the season led to a recent formation change. A 3-2-2-3 lineup is now providing much needed offense while boosting the defense as well. It proved itself successful as the team defeated Arkansas 5-1 in Fort Worth last weekend.

The formation worked well against Texas Tech, who were considered to be the top team in the

league. Right-winger Damon scored first for the Aggie a hard shot over the Tech hands.

The Aggie strikers were to score first, as they have playing catch-up ball.

The Tech team was physical, but it proved to be setback. Harmon was tripped in penalty area and A&M was a penalty kick. Mourad faked the keeper into diving right, while kicking the ball the other side.

Tech pushed hard in the half to catch the Aggies. Defense, led by Poto-K, kept them frustrated until late game when Tech right wing Thompson connected on shot.

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