

sports

Cannon may explode for A&M

RICHARD OLIVER
Sports Editor

There is celebration in Aggieland. After a year-long chase, the signing of Louisiana's top high school athlete, Bill Cannon, Jr., by Texas A&M University football coach Tom Wilson Wednesday has given the entire athletic department a happy shot in the arm.

Wilson. "We've worked on him for a year. I knew all along his first love was professional baseball, but I have no doubt he'll come right in and get to work."

It was Cannon's love for baseball that almost spoiled A&M's bid for the 6-4, 200-pound athlete.

Cannon was drafted in the third round of the June pro baseball draft by the New York Yankees. But,

after several major league clubs charged Cannon's father, 1959 Heisman Trophy winner Billy Cannon, had tampered in the selection process, baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn voided the Yankees' pick.

Thus, it is off to college for Cannon.

Wilson inked the red-haired Cannon, 18, Wednesday morning at a news conference in the Cannon's back yard in Baton Rouge, La.

Wilson said he is planning to try Cannon at wide receiver in the fall, but added he feels the Broadmoor High School product can play just as well at defensive back.

Cannon was an all-state selection in football at running back and free safety, and in baseball as a shortstop.

His talents at shortstop have Aggie coach Tom Chandler excited. After losing Bryan "Twig" Little, the SWC season record holder in assists with 86, to the Montreal Expos in the major league draft, Chandler was desperately looking

for a replacement. He may have found it.

"He's a very outstanding young ballplayer," he said. "He's one of the best recruits we've had in several years."

"Every time he played in high school, he had 18-25 major league scouts watching him."

Chandler said Cannon will receive a full-time football scholarship. NCAA rules specify a player receiving a football scholarship may not receive a scholarship for other sports.

"I compare this signing with the signing of Dave Elmendorf," he said. "He was a first round draft choice in both football and baseball by the pros, but came right in and made All-America in both sports here."

Wilson said he doesn't mind if Cannon plays both sports.

"It doesn't bother me at all," he said. "Curtis Dickey, Mike Mosley, and others have participated in track also. My philosophy is—if a person has that kind of ability, he should use it."



Knock 'em down

Debbie Lackey, a sophomore geology major from Dallas, tries to knock down the pins in her Bowling Class held every weekday at MSC lanes. Staff photo by Janet Galt.

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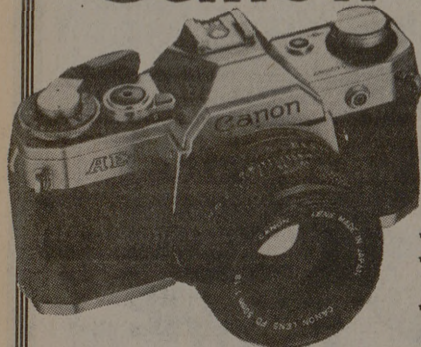
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Major League Standings

American League

Team	W	L	Pct.
New York	62	37	.625
Baltimore	55	43	.562
Milwaukee	54	45	.547
Detroit	51	44	.533
Boston	50	48	.510
Cleveland	49	47	.509
Toronto	43	55	.439

National League

Team	W	L	Pct.
Pittsburgh	56	44	.560
Montreal	54	44	.551
Philadelphia	52	46	.531
New York	48	51	.485
St. Louis	46	54	.460
Chicago	44	55	.444