

Ags capture tourney and top spot nationally

By **RITCHIE PRIDDY**
Sports Editor
The Texas A&M University softball team continued its winning ways over the weekend, capturing the Southwest AIAW Regional Tournament in Shawnee,

Okla. by sweeping three games and taking the championship by forfeit.
The Aggies received some good news before traveling north for the tournament when they learned that they had been voted

the number one team in the nation by the National Coaches poll.
The women, playing as the number one team in the country, opened the rain-delayed tournament with a shutout over McNeese State Saturday night.

They were scheduled to begin play Friday afternoon but torrential rains forced the game and tournament to be moved to Norman where Shan McDonald pitched a three-hit 7-0 win over McNeese Saturday.

The women came back Sunday, after the tournament was moved back to Shawnee, with a 7-1 victory over Texas Women's University behind the pitching of Lori Stoll.

Sunday night the Ags blanked the University of Texas at Arlington 4-0 with McDonald on the mound to advance to the championship game.

UTA outlasted LSU in a game that ended at 5:30 Monday morning to face the Aggies in the championship game, scheduled to begin around 7 a.m.

UTA, with several players ill and one with a broken finger, however, decided to forfeit rather than play the Ags for the championship.

The Aggies collected 10 hits in each of the tournament games which pleased head coach Bill Galloway, who had been worried about the team's offensive power.

"I felt all along that we would get our bats back. We hit the ball real well. We were very aggressive at the plate and took advantage of every opportunity we had," Galloway said.

Galloway singled out several players who he said had contributed in the wins.

Karen Guerrero, the leadoff batter, collected hits to start every game and scored several times to pace the Ags to an early lead. Patti Holthaus, Nancy Sullivan and Mary Lou Youngblood each had several hits and key RBI.

Galloway was quick to point out, though, that it took a team effort to win the region.

"We executed real well, every-

body did a real good job. Only one person got more than a couple of RBI's, the rest was spread out over the team.

"It's those little roles — the ones that don't seem important — that count. We had all our people doing their jobs, whether they were on the bench or in the field," he said.

Everything, he said, the other teams did against the Aggies they had to earn. They scored one run in three games.

By virtue of the regional win, the Aggies now advance to the one tournament they have been waiting three years to win — the World Series.

Galloway has watched his team finish fifth and third in the Series the past two years and now takes his most experienced team into his third Series.

The third year coach is confident of his team and its abilities and expects to win the title this year.

"We're a team now that controls its own destiny and we expect to

beat anybody. We think that we are the team to beat," Galloway said.

Their first-round opponent in the 16-team tournament will be Indiana. The Aggies faced Indiana

earlier this season and have beaten them.

The women will leave for the Series, to be held in Norman, Okla. May 21-24, Wednesday.

Ags to compete in SWC outdoors

By **RICK STOLLE**
Battalion Staff

Defending their Southwest Conference outdoor track championship will not be easy but Texas A&M University track coaches Charles Thomas and Ted Nelson feel the Ags have as good a chance as anybody.

The SWC outdoor championship will be held in Dallas at the Morrison-Bell track on the campus of SMU Friday and Saturday. The Aggies will be defending their titles and the Ags will be returning individuals who scored 88 of the teams winning 138 score.

But, the competition will be tough at the meet with many teams having a shot at the title.

"Without a doubt, this is the most competitive SWC meet we've ever had," said head coach Thomas. "The conference will probably qualify the largest number of athletes ever to the NCAA National Championships."

Nelson said, "No less than six teams can win the title. Texas has the favorite but any of the top six teams can win it all."

"It's going to be a dogfight out there."
The Ags will have a strong showing with people like Leslie Kerr in the 400-meter dash, Billy Busch in the 110-meter hurdles, James Howard in the high jump and Randy Hall in the pole vault who will be defending their conference titles.

Both Kerr and Hall will be going for their fourth straight SWC titles. Kerr set a meet record with a 45.56 last year. He has already broken that with a 45.41 this season. Hall cleared 17 feet last year which was also a meet record but he has been slowed with some fluid on his knee.

"Randy's OK, he has had some nagging injuries but he's feeling good," he said.

Busch won the hurdles last year with a time of 13.88. Teammate Mike Glaspie was a close second at 13.93.

Howard, Kerr and Hall have produced the best marks of the year in their specialties. Howard set an SWC mark with a jump of 7-3 1/2 last year. He has been matching that in practice preparing for the meet.

Nelson said the meet will hinge on how the athletes feel on Friday. They have to be ready to go, he said, because if they don't have good prelims Friday, they won't be there to compete Saturday.

Thomas said the injuries that have plagued the team throughout the year seem to have finally healed. "The only one we're really concerned about is Rod Richardson," he said. "He's been telling us that he's fine but we'll just wait and see how he does in the meet."

Thomas said Richardson has been entered only in the 100-meter dash but may compete in the 1600-meter relay as well should he be able to run without pain.

He said the problem with meets such as this one is that it probably goes down to the last event to decide the meet champion. It's sure is tough to keep track of the scoring because the lead can change hands with each event.

The team will leave Thursday for Dallas and hope it can get the breaks it needs to once again come back to Texas A&M with the title.

"The outcome of this meet will depend upon the breaks," Thomas said, "the team with the most breaks going their way will win."

1981 season football tickets on sale until 31st

Season tickets for the 1981 Texas A&M football season are on sale through May 31 in the Athletic Ticket Office in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Ticket director Jim Kosh said tickets are going at a good pace but warned those wishing to purchase season tickets must do so fast as

individual game tickets will be sold beginning June 1.

Those wishing to purchase tickets, both season and game, must fill out ticket application forms and return them to the ticket office.


Ticket forms will be mailed to homes of currently enrolled students and alumni.

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