

Aggies take to the road for year's first 'talent test'

by Denise S. Sechelski
Battalion Staff
After winning the first eight games of the season, the Texas A&M baseball team will play the University of South Alabama in Mobile Saturday. Coach Tom Chandler said this double-header will be the first test of his team's talent.

"South Alabama is a real national baseball power," Chandler said. "They've been to several NCAA College World Series so we hope to play well against them."

South Alabama Coach Eddie Stanky, who played second base for the Brooklyn Dodgers from 1944 to 1947, runs "a very disci-

plined team," Chandler said. South Alabama, the Sun Belt Conference champion, split a double-header with the University of Alabama last weekend to post a 1-1 record for the 1982 season. The Jaguars finished the 1981 season with 40 wins and 23 losses.

Chandler said his team will go into the series somewhat hand-

icapped because pitcher Rick Luecken is out with a sore elbow. Luecken pitched four innings Saturday against Northeast Louisiana but developed a sore elbow after the game.

Luecken, the leading pitcher for the Aggies, probably won't miss more than one turn in the pitching rotation, Chandler said.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



No ruling for a week on Rocket's ejection

United Press International
HOUSTON — A ruling is not expected from the league office for at least a week on the Houston Rockets protest that referee Mike Mathis improperly ejected Elvin Hayes from a game against the San Antonio Spurs.

Joe Axelson, National Basketball Association vice president of operations, said he received the official protest from the Rockets late Wednesday. If upheld, the Rockets could re-play a Tuesday game in which the San Antonio Spurs beat them 119-117.

Mathis ejected Hayes with 1:48 left in the first half after calling a technical foul on him. The basis of the Rockets claim is that normally it takes two technical fouls to cause ejection.

"I want to investigate the entire thing for myself," Axelson said, "and I want to look at the game films before making any kind of judgment."

Rockets officials mailed a letter of explanation, the game films and the required \$1,500 to Axelson to initiate the protest.

Rockets General Manager Ray Patterson said Mathis told

game scorers following the technical call that it was his second the night and that an earlier of a personal foul for elbow against Hayes had been an automatic technical foul.

Rockets Coach Del Harris also ejected from the game.

"This is not a protest over judgement call," he said. "The rule that was not followed directly."

NBA rules allow a referee to eject a player after one technical foul, however, the Rockets claim the rule is not used except when a player is uncontrollable.

Pearson undergoes surgery in Dallas

United Press International
DALLAS — Dallas Cowboys all-time leading receiver Drew Pearson underwent knee surgery for removal of damaged cartilage and is expected to begin rehabilitation within four

weeks, team officials said Wednesday.

Pearson, 31, underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right knee Tuesday at Baylor Hospital.

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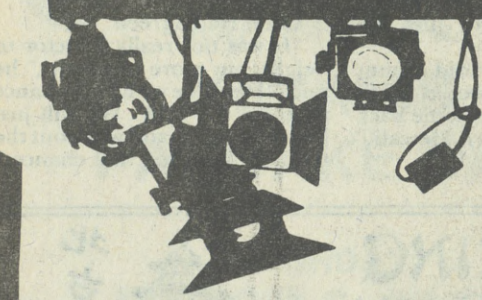
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Runners to compete

by John Wagner
Battalion Staff
The Texas A&M men's and women's track teams will compete in the Oklahoma City Classic Saturday—a meet that men's coach Charlie Thomas said will be challenging for the Aggies because of the number of teams competing.

"This is the biggest meet we'll be in all year," Thomas said. "It is an open meet, as well as a university meet."

Thomas said the recent cold spell has hurt his team's training since the track teams have no

indoor training facility. The team has to practice outside, even for indoor meets.

"You go ahead and work out, but you can't work on speed," Thomas said. "You just try to hold the time you have."

However, Thomas said, the Aggies shouldn't lose any places in the meet because of the cold because all the teams entered have had to train under the same conditions.

Thomas said sophomore Rod Richardson should have a good

chance of placing in weekend's meet. After looking at films of Richardson's performance in the 60-yard dash, the Dallas Times Herald International, Thomas said it was a decent how close Richardson to placing.

"He was only inches away from placing," Thomas said. "We expect him to do better week."

Women's coach Bill Nix took 12 athletes to Oklahoma City to compete in 11 events

Gymnastics tri-meet to be held Saturday

Some indication of the final outcome of the 1982 Texas Gymnastics Conference race probably will come from a meet being hosted by the Texas A&M gymnastics team Saturday.

League-leading Texas Tech University will compete with the Aggies and Southwest Texas State University in a triangular meet beginning at 7 p.m. in 307 East Kyle.

It will be the last home meet of the season for the Aggies.

Co-captain Mark Hartwell

said Texas Tech is becoming perennial powerhouse in the conference and the meet should be one of the best this season.

"We should have a big crowd this weekend," Hartwell said. "Tech has a very active booster club that travels with the team."

"They are a real professional team. Right now Tech is one of the only teams in the conference with a coach and has a large enough budget to compete with a large number of conference meets."

Foyt enters 500

United Press International
INDIANAPOLIS — A.J. Foyt, the only four-time winner of the Indianapolis 500, has entered the auto racing classic for the 25th year in a row.

His entry was one of announced Thursday by Speedway President John R. Cooney, bringing the field so far to 17. Teams invited to compete until April 10 to enter.

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