

Aggies race to LSU meet

By BOB CASTER
Senior sports writer

The Texas A&M men's track team is on the road again after 12 days of rest, relaxation and practice — not necessarily in that order. The Aggies leave for Baton Rouge today to compete in the LSU Invitational indoor track meet.

And the competition will be stiff. Aside from Southwest Conference rival Baylor, the Aggies will also be running against Florida, Florida State, Auburn and Louisiana State, all strong Southeastern Conference teams.

But one person who won't be in Baton Rouge this weekend is Aggie speedster Rod Richardson who will be running the 60-yard dash in Dallas at the Times Herald Invitational.

Running in the 60-yard high hurdles will be Chappelle Henderson, Craig Moody and Todd Howard. Henderson, who was on the mile relay team that qualified for nationals two weeks ago at the Eastman Invitational in Tennessee, will be entered in the high hurdles for the first time this year. Moody placed third in that event at the Sooner Relays in Oklahoma City.

Vernon Robetson and Tommy Alsbrook will be entered in the 300-yard dash and Tony Grier, Bill Shelton and Cliff Chatham will be running in the 400-yard dash.

"Tony (Grier) is running real well right now," Nelson said. "He ran a 46-flat leading off our mile relay team in Tennessee."

In the intermediate distances, Craig Calk will be running in the 600 and freshman Kendrick Wes-

ley, another member of the mile relay team, will be competing in his first 800-yard race of the season.

In addition to Wesley and Grier, Chappelle Henderson and either Bill Shelton or Cliff Chatham will be pooling their efforts to try and better their NCAA qualifying time of 3:10.23 in the mile relay.

Running distance for the Aggies will be Andy Elliot in the mile run and Arturo Barrios in the two-mile run. Barrios, who transferred from Wharton Junior College, won the 5000-meters and the steeplechase last year in the National Junior College Meet and set an A&M indoor record in the two-mile run two weeks ago at the Sooner Relays.

"We expect him to get close to the qualifying standard this

weekend," Nelson said. "With some competition, he can get there."

But in the field events, the Aggies may have a little harder time getting off the ground, especially since they are only at half strength in the high jump department. However, the two high-jumpers that are in working condition right now may be close to meeting the 7'3" NCAA qualifying standard.

Chuck Perry, who qualified outdoors last year, is just two inches away from the indoor qualifying standard, having jumped 7'1" at the Sooner Relays. Ethan Glass, who cleared 7'3" last year, has also jumped 7'1" this year.

In the other field events, Kurt Thome and Robetson will be competing in the long jump and Thome in the triple jump as well. The Aggies will have freshman Todd Howard in the shot put and Mark Bruce, Mark Rutledge and Desmond Kidd in the pole vault. Kidd placed sixth in the pole vault last year at the SWC meet.

The Aggies may pose a threat to some teams but Ted Nelson feels that it's still too early in the season to reserve any judgment.

"It's hard to tell at this early date where we stand," he said. "I guess we'd probably be in the middle of the pack."

Nelson said the Aggies are probably as good indoors as outdoors and added that the strong teams in the middle distance races tend to do better indoors.

Mazur makes pitch at baseball team

By BOB CASTER
and RANDY LEMMON
Sports writers

Remember Wayne Jackson? He's a former Texas A&M left-handed pitcher. No, he didn't graduate or get drafted, he quit — without ever facing an opposing batter. In fact, he never even faced an opposing team.

That leaves head coach Tom Chandler in a bit of a pinch; he's down to only one left-hander, Sherman Corbett. And Chandler is of firm belief that every ballclub in America needs a left-handed pitcher, and two are better than one.

Exit Wayne Jackson, enter John Mazur. That's right, straight from the sideline to the bullpen. Not only can the guy throw a football, Chandler believes he may be able to throw a pretty decent curve ball as well.

"He's an athlete that is real competitive and the same thing goes right over into baseball," Chandler said. "He has a pretty good arm and he pitched in high school. We're giving him a shot. I'll say that."

It was a little under two years ago that head football coach Jackie Sherrill gave him the sort

of shot. Mazur, a seven-game starter at quarterback for USC two years ago, was replaced by a freshman sensation and Mazur packed his bags and headed for Aggieland. After starting four games at quarterback for the Aggies, lightning struck twice. He was replaced again by a freshman sensation — this time, Kevin Murray. John Mazur packed his bags but this time only headed across the track to Olsen Field. Any freshmen pitchers on the baseball team?

But it may actually be the break Mazur needs, kind of a way to take his mind off a frustrating football season.

"Well it's just something that I've always wanted to do since I've been in college," Mazur said. "I've just never had the opportunity because of spring football practice."

And what about his once-promising football career?

"I still have another year of eligibility left," Mazur said. "I'm on a football scholarship and I made a commitment when I came out here no matter how it went."

(Randy Lemmon is a KAMU-TV sports reporter)

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Tennis team faces test

By BILL ROBINSON
Assistant sports editor

They say experience is the best teacher. If that is true, Texas A&M's young women's tennis team should walk away from its dual match with Trinity University with an education.

And while the educating might not be easy, Coach Jan Cannon says the team won't embarrass themselves.

"They come in with a very high quality team," Cannon said. "They have the talent and the rankings to make it good experience for us."

"We have a young team but the only way you get experience is to get out there and play with the best. It will be sort of a David and Goliath match-up. We may surprise them in a place or two."

But winning the match would have to be an upset for the 2-1 Aggies. Trinity comes into the match with a No. 2 national ranking — and a possibility of moving into the top spot after several victories this week.

Trinity also sports the No. 5 ranked doubles team in the nation and the 1 doubles team.

That makes the matchup tant to the Aggies.

"Any time you play Trinity is important; in the terms of anyway," Cannon said. "I'm hoping we can get into the 20."

A&M will battle for third with a team consisting of one senior, one junior transfer, one sophomore and three freshmen.

The match begins at Saturday at the Omar's Tennis Courts.

Howard

(continued from page 15)

going to stop jumping until I set world records that won't get broken for 10 years."

He should have a chance to make it into the record books and into the public eye — if he makes it to the Olympics in Los Angeles. But if he doesn't reach his goals in 1984, Howard says he still has quite a few years to accomplish them.

"I used to think that when you got to be as old as I am (24) that you couldn't jump anymore," he said. "But now that I'm getting older — I'm getting better."

Howard said that track and field is like an art — an art he wants to master.

His first objective is to master his approach which, in turn, should help him master the high jump.

"Right now I'm working with weights to get stronger in my legs," he said. "Then I can have a really strong approach and jump a lot higher."

Howard feels his approach is his biggest asset in the sport.

"Right now, I have the best approach in the world," he said. "I'm running about 8.5 meters per second towards the bar and can only get better."

And getting better is one of Howard's goals.

"I think I'm the best in the world, but a lot of people don't seem to think so," he said. "I'm just going to prove to everybody sooner or later that I am."

But his main reason for jumping is the love of competition and the sport.

"I love competition — it's the thing I thrive on," he said. "I just enjoy the pressure and guess that's the main reason I jump. When it's all over, you feel good that you've done something that you wanted to do."

What Howard really wants to do is win a gold medal at the Olympic Games and set a permanent record for himself and the United States.

Aggies

(continued from page 15)

of the court part of the capacity crowd of 10,060 began to boo.

Lewis did not put Anders in at that point though. Guard Gary Orsak, who has played only 19 minutes all season, was inserted into the lineup.

Then with 3:56 left, Lewis

unsnapped his warm-ups with a finger pointed at Winslow. Lewis entered the game at Hofeinz since he was allowed to return from his imposed exile.

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