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**Tracksters 'Bear' it and grin**

By CINDY GAY  
Sports Writer

The guys and gals of Aggie track rounded the green to gain the gold at the Baylor Invitational this weekend.

Rod Richardson carried the colors out in front for the men's track team in the 100-yard dash with a time of 10.23 seconds, a new meet and stadium record. Richardson broke the old record that he tied in 1983 with Carl Lewis' 1980 performance of 10.24.

The 440-yard relay team qualified for the NCAA championships by breaking the tape behind only Baylor with a time of 40.02 seconds. Lawrence Mitchell, Tony Grier, Darrell Austin and Richardson made their debut appearance for the season this week, and their handoffs lacked the efficiency they hope to gain in the weeks of practice ahead.

In the 880-yard relay, the same fearsome foursome, with the exception of Tommy Alsbrooks running instead of Mitchell, had to settle for second after the Bears once again when Richardson eased up at the finish due to a sharp pain in his leg.

Ethan Glass, skied 6 feet, 11 inches to win and then took three shots at 7-4, but couldn't quite make the height. Glass then jumped an unofficial fourth time at 7-4 and cleared with ease.

"He proved to himself that he could do it," said Nelson.

Ernie Mendez tied for second in the high jump at 6-8. Chris Walker and Kurt Thome proved they could both get a long with jumps of 24-11 3/4 and 24-7 1/2. Walker won the event, Thome placed third, and Francisco Oliveras was seventh with a personal best long jump of 24-1 1/2. Oliveras went two steps farther to take second place in the triple jump with a length of 51-8.

Rickey Alexander strided over 110-meters worth of hurdles in 14.02 seconds to place third, while Huey Treat endured the Waco winds in the 5,000-meters to finish seventh in 14 minutes, 47 seconds.

The Aggie two mile relay team of Kendric Wesley, Arturo Barrios, Sean Stone and Maurice Holt kept the baton aloft for eight laps to come in third with a time of 7 minutes, 37 seconds.

The women's track team collected its largest total of high place finishes in the Baylor meet, with Debby Noel winning the 3,000-meters in 9:55 minutes, followed by Beth Drees who ran a third place time of 10:06.

Judy Williams was second at the end of 400-meters with a time of 55.5 seconds, and Esther Dedrick clicked of her best 1500-meter time to place sixth in 4:38.

**Houston burns Atlanta; Texas zaps Milwaukee**

Associated Press

Astros 4, Braves 2

ATLANTA — Houston reliever Dave Smith said he did not have "a lot of stuff" when he entered the game with the bases loaded in the eighth inning Sunday.

"At least not the kind of stuff to blow three men away with," he said.

But he did have enough to blow away one man, and that's all he needed to preserve a 4-2 victory for the Astros, enabling them to take the Atlanta Braves series 2-1.

"I had never seen him before," Smith said of Atlanta catcher Rick Cerone, who is playing his first season in the National League. "So I threw him a change up, a fork ball."

Cerone hit the ball to third baseman Denny Walling, who stepped on third for one out and threw to first for an inning-ending double play that allowed the Astros to escape a bases-loaded jam for the second straight inning.

Left hander Bob Knepper, 1-0, hurled the first six innings for the Astros to gain his first decision in three starts. He said he was pleased with having struck out Atlanta slugger Dale Murphy twice.

"Everybody has been talking about how well he hits me," Knepper said. "So instead of pressuring up for him, I just relaxed. I struck him out the first time with a sinker away, and the second time with a 'mistake pitch' that fooled me and him and even the umpire who made a delayed call."

Knepper gave up only four hits in six innings, and Jose Cruz got three hits to lead the Houston attack.

Cruz' three hits, two hits by Denny Walling and four errors by the Braves were enough to let the Astros hand the Braves their sixth defeat in nine home games.

The Astros got a run in the first inning after Walling and Cruz got consecutive singles off Atlanta

**Texas Major Leagues**

starter Len Barker, 0-1. Walling took third on Cruz' single and scored on a wild pitch by Barker.

Houston scored three more runs in the third after Knepper led off with a walk and went to third on a throwing error by Brad Komminsk, who attempted to double Knepper off first after catching Bill Dolan's looping liner to shallow left field.

Kevin Bass singled Knepper home, and after stealing second, scored on a double by Walling. Cruz then singled to drive home Walling.

Until the sixth, the only hit yielded by Knepper was an unproductive double by Chris Chambliss with two out in the second. But Glenn Hubbard opened the Braves' sixth with a single and pinch-batter Terry Harper then hit his first home run of the season, a drive over the left field fence.

Rangers 5, Brewers 2

MILWAUKEE — Don Slaught entered the game hitting only .250 for Texas, so when he hit his first home run of the year and singled twice, it was indicative of how the Rangers pulled together to sweep a three-game series with the Milwaukee Brewers.

"The longer we play together the more we are going to play like a team," Slaught said after the Rangers finished up the weekend series with a 5-2 victory Sunday.

"Our pitchers have really been doing a job this last week, and our hitters are now coming around and

scoring some runs for them," Slaught said.

Third baseman Buddy Bell, who contributed two RBIs toward the support of Texas pitchers Mike Mason and Dave Stewart, threw out two Brewer runners on a pair of diving stops that impressed Milwaukee manager George Bamberger.

"Bell made a couple of excellent plays that probably cost us a couple of runs," Bamberger said. "There is nothing you can do about it."

"Everybody has been contributing," Bell said. "When that happens, you don't feel you have to take it all on your own shoulders, not only me but everybody."

"When everybody is contributing, it makes it a lot easier," he said.

Texas took a 1-0 lead against Milwaukee starter and loser Ray Burris, 1-2, in the third inning. With one out, Toby Harrah walked and Gary Ward singled him to third. Bell followed with a single to left, scoring Harrah.

Slaught slammed his first homer of the year with two outs in the fourth, and Cliff Johnson hit another two-out solo shot, his third, in the sixth, giving Texas a 3-0 lead.

The Rangers added two runs in the seventh after Harrah led off with a walk and moved to second when Ward grounded out. Harrah scored on another single by Bell.

Pete O'Brien walked, Larry Parrish singled and Bell scored when O'Brien was caught in a rundown between second and third.

Mason, 2-1, scattered three hits through seven innings before being touched for two runs in the eighth. Randy Ready led off with a double for Milwaukee and, one out later, Paul Molitor and Robin Yount followed with consecutive singles, scoring Ready.

Dave Stewart relieved Mason and was greeted with an RBI-single by Cecil Cooper before settling down to get the save.

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