

Barnes' shots lead Aggs at track meet

By TOM TAGLIABUE
Sports Writer

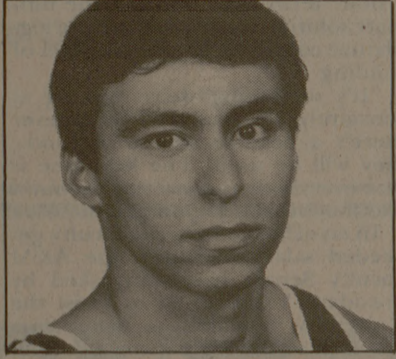
The Texas A&M men's track team, led by freshman shot putter Randy Barnes, produced its best results of the year this past weekend at the Dallas Times Herald Invitational indoor meet.

The Aggies collected two first-places, two seconds and three third-place finishes against the 10-team field which included two other Southwest Conference teams, Texas and Houston.

The 6-foot-4½, 285-pound Barnes won the shot put with a throw of 63-feet, ¾ inches, making him the third-best shot putter in A&M history.

"Barnes did his all-time best," A&M Head Track Coach Charlie Thomas said. "Randy's really coming on strong."

Triple jumper Francisco Olivares, a senior from Mexico City, won the event with a jump of 49-11¼. Olivares' mark was the longest jump in A&M history, breaking the record



A&M's Francisco Olivares placed first in the triple jump.



A&M's Randy Barnes won the shot put event in Dallas.

set by Johnny Hector (49-10¼) in 1982.

The Aggs came close to three other first-place finishes.

In the 60-yard dash, Floyd Heard was barely edged out of first by .01 seconds. Heard settled for second-place with a time of 6.27 seconds.

Ian James qualified for the NCAA national meet with a second-place

finish in the long jump. James was leading the field with a jump of 25-2¾, but passed on the last of three jumps because he was afraid of re-injuring his hamstring.

Texas' Eric Metcalf won the event with a jump of 25-3¼ — only a half inch farther than James' effort.

Three high jumpers all jumped 7-

feet, including A&M's Ernie Mendez. However, Mendez missed on more attempts than the other two jumpers — Oklahoma's James Phipps and Texas' John Shelton. Phipps took first-place, Shelton was second and Mendez finished third.

The Aggies got another fine performance from their mile-relay team, which took third-place at the collegiate meet. Kendrick Wesley, Gary Pervis, Maurice Holt and Heard ran the mile in 3 minutes, 17.31 seconds, which qualified the team for the world-class meet.

Thomas said the relay team improved its time at the evening meet, although it did not place.

Freshman Matt Dunn, who won the 880-yard dash at last week's LSU Invitational, ran a longer distance in Dallas, placing third in the 1,000-yard run.

Two Aggies placed in the 60-yard high hurdles, Lawrence Felton (third) and Rickey Alexander (fifth).

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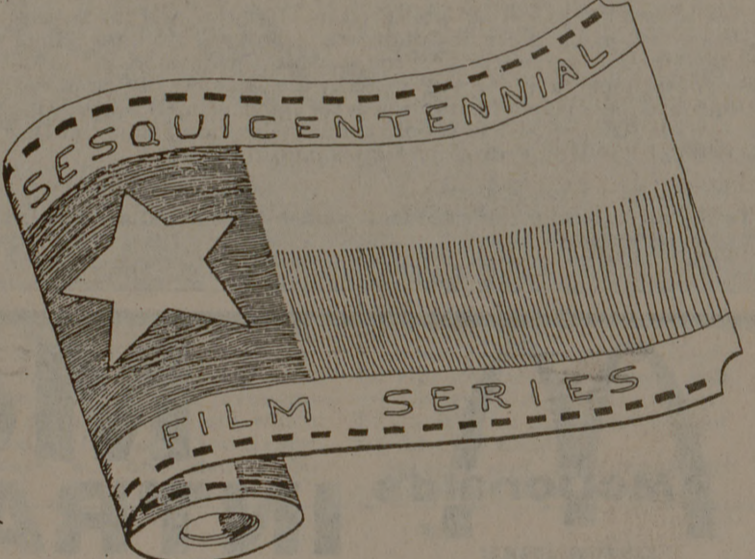
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