

Sports

Barnes won't put shot at A&M Relays

By Ken Sury
Assistant Sports Editor

Texas A&M's new Frank G. Anderson Track and Field Complex will hold its second meet within a two-week span Saturday, but A&M's freshman sensation, Randy Barnes, won't be doing what he does best.

Track and Field

Barnes, whose put of 69-feet, 2 1/4-inches at last weekend's Texas Relays set a new meet and freshman collegiate record, will not compete in the Texas A&M Relays' shot put event because his wrist is sore.

A&M Head Track Coach Charlie Thomas said he regretted keeping Barnes out of the event, but feared that Barnes could injure his wrist further if he competed.

However, Barnes will be able to toss the discus since the wrist is not used in the same manner as for the shot, Thomas said.

Of Southwest Conference schools, only A&M and the University of Texas women's team will compete. But the two will be joined by Stephen F. Austin, University of Texas at San Antonio, McNeese State, Prairie View, Texas Southern, Louisiana Tech, Pan American, Texas A&I, Angelo State and Northwest Louisiana, all which competed at the Texas Relays.

The remainder of the Aggies are healthy and will compete in the Relays. A&M long jumper Ian James, who sat out with a bruised heel since the NCAA Indoor Championships four weeks ago, will return.

"The long jump competition will be fierce," Thomas said. "As well as the triple jump."

The field events for the Texas A&M Relays are scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. and the track events at 1:15 p.m.

Wins, family ties keep Ags' Johnson happy

By Tom Tagliabue
Sports Writer

Some of toughest times for a baseball coach are the losses on the playing field, but for Texas A&M's Mark Johnson, those losses aren't as tough as the time he's away from his family.

"The spring is so tough because you're away from your family so much," Johnson said. "You see everybody, but as a unit, to sit down and talk, go camping, hunting, attend church — those things that are important to our family."

Johnson said his wife and two teen-age sons help him through a season.

"We have a very strong family," Johnson said. "We have a very strong loyalty to one another and we're very supportive of one another. That's what carries me through the spring more than anything else does."

"The fall is my favorite time of the year because it means family times — times we can spend together. I enjoy camping, fishing and hunting. I enjoy being with my my boys (17-year old Ronny and 14-year old Brian) and my wife (Linda)."

"These are times we can spend together in a much more relaxed atmosphere. The public eye isn't on us at that time and that's comfortable."

Johnson will have to spend another weekend away from his family when he and his 16th-ranked Aggies, 29-18 and 7-2, travel to Waco for a three-game Southwest Conference series with the Baylor Bears at Ferrell Field.

The teams will play a double-header Saturday at 12 p.m. and a single game Sunday at 1 p.m.

"My concern right now is the pitching rotation," Johnson said. "Hopefully, somebody will get very consistent. Dale Barry has been pretty consistent starting for us (2-0, 2.77 ERA, 20 strikeouts in SWC)."

"Darryl Fry (1-1 in SWC), if he has his stamina and he's on top of his game, then I think he can be in that area, but he's been a little shaky lately. Gary Gieger (2-1, 4.26 ERA) has been off-and-on a little bit, so those are concerns are that I have



Mark Johnson, A&M's head baseball coach, watches the action from the dugout during last weekend's Tech series. A&M begins a 3-game

series with Baylor in Waco Saturday at noon. The series was to begin Friday, but playing conditions at Ferrell Field would not allow it.

right now — and of course, going on the road."

Johnson said the road adjustments are something the team will have to overcome.

"There are a lot of things that have an effect on the player once

you hit the road, but good teams overcome those types of things," he said. "I hope we're maturing into that area."

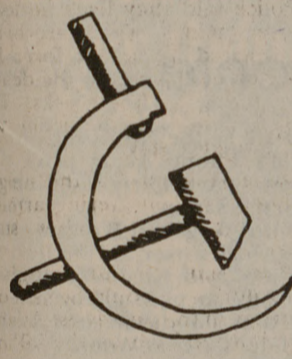
Maturity is what the first-place Ags need if they expect to beat the

sixth-place Bears this weekend.

"I'm very pleased with the position we are in right now in the SWC race for the pennant, but at this particular point in time, I'm just not terribly impressed or in awe of our status," Johnson said. "(Our standing

could fall next week. There's a lot of distance and a lot of teams between now and when the seasons over, so we're really not on 'Cloud 9.' We know we're going to have to continue to scrap and fight hard just to survive."

Photo by John Makely



FROM
OPPRESSION
TO
FREEDOM



Beginning last Wednesday reports have circulated that Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrei Sakhorov would be released from Soviet internal exile within the next month. On April 16th MSC Great Issues Committee is bringing to Texas A&M Alexander Ginzburg. Alexander Ginzburg is a former Soviet dissident and colleague of Andrei Sakhorov. Both Ginzburg and Sakhorov were persecuted for their outspoken stand against the Soviet government's infringements on civil rights. In 1981 Ginzburg was traded to the West for 2 convicted Soviet spies.



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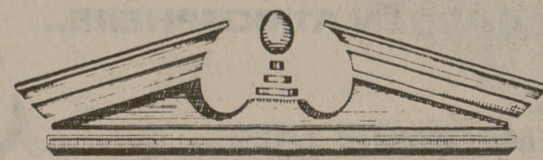
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