

Sports

Ags hope to shine as NCAAs begin today

By Ken Sury
Sports Editor

The Southwest Conference is expected to shine at the 65th Annual NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships which begin today in Indianapolis, and Texas A&M will be looking for its own place in the ring.

Track and Field News picked Southern Methodist as the methodist to see in the meet.

With as many as four other SWC schools finishing in the top 10, but the Aggies will have to do it without freshman Randy Barnes putting the shot.

Barnes, who has the world's best shot at 71 feet, 9 1/2 inches this year, dropped from the shot put competition Monday night. Barnes injured his knuckle on his throwing hand at the Mt. San Antonio Relays in California in late April and aggravated it in the SWC Outdoor Championships in mid-May.

Barnes underwent laser treatments two weeks ago, but couldn't throw Monday, so A&M assistant coach Ted Nelson said they decided to pull out of today's qualifying.

With Barnes, the odds-on favorite, absent from the shot-put competition, SMU's Lars Nilsen (67-9 1/2)



Randy Barnes

has a chance at the NCAA crown. But he is recovering from a cut on his right thumb and will face strong competition from Minnesota's Ron Backes, the NCAA indoor champion at 68-11 1/2, Brigham Young's Soren Tallehm (64-7 3/4) and Louisiana Tech's Steve Cate (65-8 1/2).

While Barnes' injury doesn't affect his discus throwing, his personal best of 200-9, is short of the top throws by contenders Vesteinn Hafskensson of Alabama (209-11), Ed Wade of Oklahoma (205-7) and

Barnes drops from shot put

Bernard Kneissler (202-11) for the discus championship.

The Aggies have two athletes in the long jump competition. Junior transfer Ian James set a school and Canadian national record as he leaped 26-3 1/4 at the Texas A&M Relays in April. Sophomore Chris Walker's best this year is a 26-1 1/4 which he set at the College Station Relays.

The top jump this year is Arkansas senior Mike Davis' wind-aided 27-3 1/4, but has been inconsistent in big meets. Others with a good shot at winning the event are Texas Southern's Paul Emordi and UCLA's Mike Powell (26-11 1/4) and NCAA indoor winner Kenny Harrison of Kansas State (26-9 3/4).

A&M's entry in the triple jump is senior Francisco Olivares, who jumped to a school and Mexican record 54-0 1/4 at the Texas A&M Relays. But his jump is well short of this year's best marks with Emordi's wind-aided 56-9 1/2, and Houston's Frank Rutherford went 54-9 to win the indoor title.

In the 400-meter intermediate

hurdles, Craig Calk will represent A&M with a top time of 50.40 seconds. But Iowa State junior Danny Harris is expected to win his third consecutive NCAA title. He is currently the world's No. 2-ranked 400 intermediate hurdler with a top time of 47.63.

The Aggies' strength this year has been in its freshman class, which has proved profitable in the sprints and relays.

Floyd Heard and Stanley Kerr earned NCAA berths in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes. Heard's best is 10.12 in the 100 and 20.10 in the 200, while Kerr's tops are a 10.14 and 20.25.

But SMU also has a fleet-footed freshman in Roy "Robot" Martin. Martin owns a 9.97 and 19.86 in the windy SWC Championships. Other strong contenders include Mississippi State's Lorenzo Daniel, Olympic silver medalist Sam Graddy of Tennessee and Chidi Imoh of Missouri.

Texas Christian also has a contender in Roscoe Tatum, who ran a 10.08 and 20.60 at the SWC Championships.



Francisco Olivares

Heard's, Kerr's, Martin's and Tatum's bests were all set at the SWC Championships.

In the 400-meter dash, Arkansas is hoping for a first-place finish by Roddie "Comet" Haley, who has twice won the event at the SWC Championships. But Washington State senior Gabriel Tiacoh's 44.32 is tops in the world this year, while Haley's time is third.

A&M is caught in the middle of an SWC-laden field in the relays. In the

400 relay, TCU is expected to be the team to beat as the foursome of Tatum, Andrew Smith, Leroy Reid and Greg Scholars have the country's top time of 38.97.

Several squads could act as spoilers in the event, including the A&M squad of Lawrence Felton, Heard, Archie Roberts and Kerr which owns a 39.28 time along with SMU.

Baylor set a meet record of 3:00.84 last year in the 1,600 relay with senior Willie Caldwell as anchor. This year Raymond Pierre replaced Caldwell and led the team to a 3:01.45 to lead the nation.

SMU ran a 3:01.07 with Martin as anchor, but was disqualified for a lane violation. TCU has the second-best time in the country with a 3:02.74. The Aggies, with the squad of Kendrick Wesley, Gary Pervis, Matt Washington and Maurice Holt, have a school-best time of 3:04.51.

A&M didn't qualify anyone in the distance events, but came close as freshman Matt Dunn missed the 800-meter run by less than one second, and while Calvin Gaziano set a school mark with a time of 3 minutes, 44.29 seconds, it was shy of the 3:42.54 needed to qualify.

Bird's 3-point shot gives Boston 3-1 advantage

HOUSTON (AP) — Larry Bird led the go-ahead basket with a three-point shot, then the Boston Celtics took over Tuesday night, pulling the Celtics within one victory of their 16th NBA title.

The Celtics took a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven NBA championship series with a 106-103 victory Tuesday night.

NBA Finals

Despite scoring only two points after Bird's three-pointer gave them a 104-101 lead with 2:26 left.

Bill Walton scored the final two points of the game with 1:39 left after an offensive rebound.

Walton had replaced a worn-out Robert Parish at center down the

stretch. Parish had come back from an eight-point, 3-for-15 shooting performance in Boston's Game 3 defeat to score 22 points on 10-for-15 shooting Tuesday night.

"Robert played a great game all the way through but he got real tired at the end," Walton said. "I was very surprised to get the call, but I was ready and it sure feels great. It's a tremendous feeling."

Houston's only points in the final four minutes came on a rebound basket by Rodney McCray. It made the score 104-103 after Bird's bomb gave Boston the lead for good.

"Defense did the job," Boston Coach K.C. Jones said. "They've got the two franchises (Akeem Olajuwon

and Ralph Sampson) and we denied them a couple of shots and got some blocks. Their inside game was so tough we had to take them out of it."

Bird scored only seven of his 21 points after halftime, but none were bigger than his three-pointer, which provided the 19th and final lead change of a game that was close throughout.

"It wasn't a designed play," Bird said. "It was just what happened out there. We moved the ball around and it swung around to me. The shot clock was running down and I had to shoot it."

Steals by Danny Ainge and Kevin McHale in the final minute preserved the slim Boston margin.

"Bird hit a big three-pointer at the end to give us the cushion we needed and our defense at the end of the game got us the steals," Walton said.

Houston, facing a 3-1 deficit that no team has ever overcome in the finals, still has not given up hope. One game will be played in Houston Thursday night, with the last two scheduled for Boston Garden where the Celtics have won 40 consecutive games.

"In 1981, I had to hear the other team cheer through the wall. We're No. 1," said Robert Reid, referring to the Rockets' 4-2 defeat to the Celtics in their only previous meeting in the finals five years ago, when the

last game was played in Houston. "That's not going to happen Thursday night. Nobody has given up anything yet. If there's a miracle of a chance, if we have a life vest, we're still afloat."

Boston's Dennis Johnson also finished with 22 points while McHale had 19. Sampson had 25 points, Olajuwon 20 points and 14 rebounds and Reid 19 points for Houston.

The fourth quarter was incredibly close, even closer than the game as a whole, which had 19 lead changes and 13 ties. The final period started with the Celtics holding a one-point lead and it wasn't until Bird's three-pointer that either team led by more than two points. There were six lead

changes in the first three minutes of the final quarter alone.

While Houston was taking advantage of Boston turnovers in the first half, the Celtics stayed close by hitting 13 of 16 second-period shots. At the same time, the Rockets got 31 field-goal attempts but made only 14.

Houston received 21 points in the first half from Ralph Sampson but led by only one point at halftime as the Celtics hit 63.4 percent of their shots.

Houston made only 46.3 percent of its shots but managed to take the

See Celtics, page 8

Brazos Tire Service has joined the Pilger family.

Brazos Tire Service has become the newest member of the Pilger family of tire and auto service centers. The Pilger family has over 25 years of tire experience. Now Pilger is the name for BFGoodrich tires too.



BFGoodrich
XLM H/T Steel Belted
Radial White Wall
P165/80 R-13

\$41.95

Reg. \$53.82

Lube and Oil Change

\$14.95

Includes chassis grease, up to 5 quarts 10W/30 Uniflo and filter. Most cars and light trucks only.

Wheel Alignment

\$18.95

Simple alignment includes caster and camber adjustment, toe adjustment, steering check and road test. Most cars and light trucks only.

PILGER'S

Brazos Tire & Auto Center
2707 Texas Ave/823-0551
Open M-F from 7:30-5:30 Sat 8-12

Rise to the top.

You're a nuclear-trained officer. It goes beyond special. It's elite! And your status reflects a job that demands your best. Proving your skills at the heart of today's nuclear-powered Navy.

Over half of America's nuclear reactors are in the Navy. That adds up to more years of experience with reactors than any company in the world, and it means working with the most sophisticated training and equipment anywhere.

There's no boot camp. College graduates get Officer Candidate School leadership training, and a year of graduate-level training in the Navy Nuclear Power School. The rewards are topnotch, too. Generous bonuses upon commissioning and also upon completion of nuclear training. Sign up while still in college and you could be earning \$1,000 a month right now.

Be one of the most accomplished professionals in a challenging field. Lead the adventure as an officer in the Nuclear Navy. Contact your Navy Officer Recruiter or call 1-800-327-NAVY.

NAVY OFFICER.

LEAD THE ADVENTURE.