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Aggies

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settled down, the team stopped LSU effectively, particularly in the second half. Tiger tailback Harvey Williams ran circles around A&M in the first half, gaining 60 of his 70 yards, but the defense clamped down on him in the second half.

"Harvey Williams is just another athlete," A&M noseguard Sammy O'Brien said. "He hasn't proved himself to me. I'm very proud of us defensively. We're going to have a great team both offensively and defensively."

"We knew they were going to run the ball quite a bit, what with what's-his-name, number 22 (Williams), saying he was going to get 200 yards."

The Aggie defense also was very effective in getting to LSU quarterback Tom Hodson. He was sacked three times and was pressured all day. However, on third and nine at the LSU 28, he somehow escaped a sure sack that instead resulted in a freak 25-yard pass completion to Williams which kept the drive alive. It was the key play that led to the Tigers' first touchdown and perhaps the most important play of the game.

Senior defensive back Brooks led the way with 11 for A&M, including eight that were unassisted. Junior linebacker Jackson followed with 12 tackles. Senior defensive back Kip Gorton registered 11 tackles.

"The defense played well," Gorton said. "I said before the game we'd have a good defense."

In fact, it was the defense that made the final offensive drive very close. Despite a strong start, the Tigers only outgained Aggies by 18 yards, even as A&M spent most of the game tiring feebly. On the day, the Aggies finished with a miserable 22 yards compared to the Tigers' 40. If the A&M offense had been as good as the defense, it wouldn't have even been a game. Write this down. A&M's good football team this year will contend for the Southwest Conference title, but Sherrill has enough confidence in his team to let him open the season with a win.

"I think we did some good things and some bad things," Sherrill said. "We're a team that's going to get better as the season goes on."

SWC takes thrashing in opening weekend

From The Associated Press
The Southwest Conference's football weekend included merciless beatings by three of The Associated Press' Top Ten teams and a sour start by what is supposed to be Jim Wacker's best team yet at Texas Christian.

Only Rice and Baylor managed to salvage any semblance of pride for the SWC with narrow victories against Lamar University and Louisiana Tech, respectively.

Rice nipped Lamar 34-30 on quarterback Quentin Roper's touchdown with 15 seconds left and Baylor beat Louisiana Tech 13-3 behind backup quarterback Brad Goebel.

"Let's hear it for numbers seven and eight," said Baylor Coach Grant Teaff, referring to where the Bears and Owls were picked in SWC preseason polls.

Goebel ably replaced starter Ed Lovell, who suffered a knee injury and could be lost for up to three weeks.

Texas, Texas A&M, and Texas Tech were blown away.

Fifth-ranked Auburn mauled Texas 31-3 in Longhorn Coach David McWilliams' debut.

It was the worst opening loss in the school's history, as McWilliams became the first of Texas' 27 head coaches to lose his debut.

"I believe in facing facts," McWilliams said. "We couldn't move the football against them."

Sixth-ranked Louisiana State bounced the 15th-ranked Texas Aggies 17-3 and senior quarterback Craig Stump, who served up two damaging interceptions while replacing the departed Kevin Murray.

"Anytime you lose a great player like Kevin you miss him," said Aggie Coach Jackie Sherrill. "We couldn't do anything offensively. And that

has to change. We got a great all the way through on defense."

The loss ended A&M's home winning streak.

Eighth-ranked Florida scored on its first five possessions to defeat Texas Tech 40-16 and College gave Wacker his first win since 1976 with a 38-10 victory.

Senior quarterback Scott Toman was pressed into service against Louisiana State when regular starter Joe Tolliver suffered a strain of his left foot in practice.

Toman hit 16 of 27 passes for 200 yards.

Tech Coach Spike Dykes thought Toman was great. "I did everything we asked of him and he did it well."

TCU lost five turnovers to Texas Tech, and Wacker said, "I do that and win."

"I still have a lot of hope for this team. I saw a lot of good things. We've got to hang tough and have to have enough character to come out of this."

TCU lost quarterback Scott Toman, fullback Scott Bednarz, running back Tommy Palmer and injuries. Their status was to be determined later this week.

Arkansas, the preseason favorite, and Houston make their debuts this weekend.

The Razorbacks are at Louisiana State, to play Mississippi in a clash. Houston hosts Oklahoma State in a noon regionally televised (Raycom) matchup.

In other games, Rice is at Baylor in a 1 p.m. game, TCU at Texas Tech at 1 p.m., Baylor is at Texas at 1:30 p.m., Brigham Young is at Texas at 7 p.m., and Texas Tech hosts Colorado State at 7 p.m.

Africans pace efforts track championships

ROME (AP) — World record-holder Said Aouita of Morocco won the 5,000 meters and completed an African sweep of distance races in the windup of the record-setting World Track and Field Championships Sunday.

Only six of the meet records set in the first world championships four years ago remained when the eight-day competition ended with speeches, Italian pagentry and fireworks on a mild Roman evening.

Carl Lewis, Butch Reynolds and Florence Griffith helped the United States team salvage some glory from a generally mediocre meet performance. The Americans won three of the four relays — the men's and women's 400 meters, and the men's 1,600 meters.

East Germany topped the medal count, shattering the figures set by the United States in Helsinki. The Americans were second in gold medals and third overall.

Aouita, slowed by a recent tendon injury that made his participation in the meet doubtful and a spike wound suffered during the semifinals, had enough strength to capture the 5,000 in 13 minutes, 26.46 seconds.

It was his 38th straight victory over the last two years at distances from 800 meters to 10,000 meters.

Abdi Bile gave Somalia its first gold medal in an Olympic Games or world championship, capturing the 1,500 meters in 3:36.80 and soundly thrashing world mile record-holder Steve Cram of Britain.

Douglas Wakihuru, a Kenyan living in Japan, won the marathon in only his third attempt at the distance of over 26 miles with a time of 2:11:48.

Lewis, a gold medalist in the long jump and silver medalist in the 100 meters, anchored the U.S. men's 400 relay team to victory in 37.90, the third-fastest in history.

Griffith keyed the women's 400-meter relay triumph with a third leg, as the U.S. was off to a 41.58, the fourth-best ever championship record.

Reynolds, the men's 400-meter bronze medalist, ran a solid first leg, helping the U.S. win the relay in 2:57.29, a championship record and the second-fastest ever by a national team behind only the world record of 2:56.16, by the Americans at the 1968 Olympics.

The other winners on the day were Sweden's Patrik Sjöberg in the men's high jump at 7 feet, 10 inches; Britain's Fatima Whitbread in the women's javelin at 251 feet, 5 inches; and East Germany's Ingrid Isenhardt in the women's 1,600-meter relay in 3:18.63, a championship mark.

East Germany easily won the medal race with 31, including 10 golds. The Soviet Union won with 25 medals, seven golds. The United States, the leader from the inaugural championships with 24 medals, was third with 22.

Two world records were set in 43 events — 24 men's and 19 women's — and both came within 10 minutes of each other at the end of Sunday.

First, Canada's Ben Johnson smashed the world record in the men's 100-meter dash with a time of 9.83, then Bulgaria's Kostadinova broke the world record in the women's high jump at 6-10 1/4.

On the final Sunday, a crowd of 70,000, it was the turn to dominate, as they completed a sweep of the distance races with 1,500, 5,000, 10,000 and 20,000 meters.

Kenya's Paul Kipkoech won the 10,000-meter race, and his teammate Billy Konchellah, won the 20,000-meter race, the best performer as the season goes on.

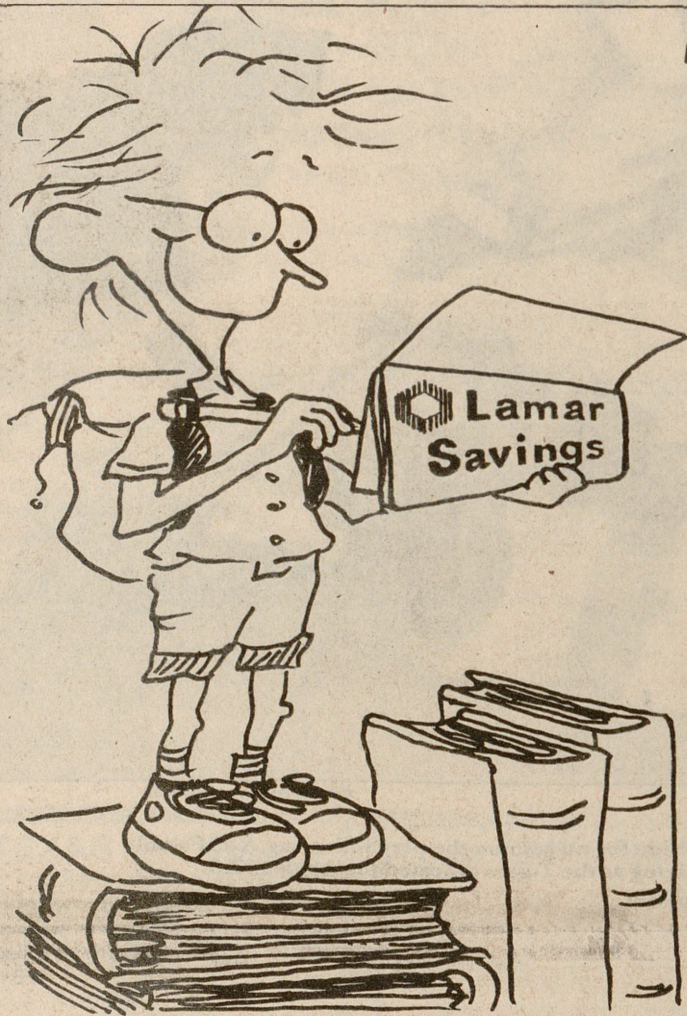
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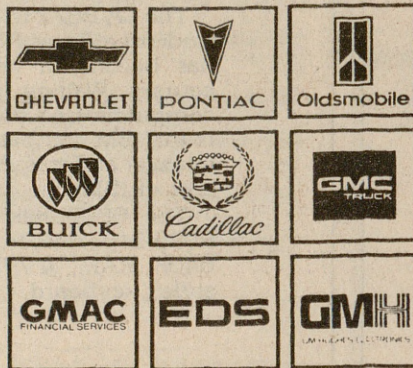
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