

Lady Aggs steadily build good program

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steadily, improvement. Although the Lady Aggies have made great marks, Nelson sees room for improvement. "We're steadily building the women's program," he said. "We've had it now for five years, and we're still striving. It takes a long time to build up a team to where you would like to have it."

Recruiting was the weak spot in the program five years ago Nelson said, and he and his staff are still trying to bring it up to the men's level.

"We just have to get out and recruit those good athletes," Nelson said. "It's the good athletes who make great coaches out of us."

With the recruitment of standout freshman shotput/discus thrower Amy Paulsen, Nelson just might be vying for coach of the year.

Paulsen led the Lady Aggies in the SWC Indoor Track Championship finishing second with a personal best 48'2" throw. "She has the talent to possibly be the National Champion at one time," Nelson said. "I'm not predicting that she will be this year or the next, but she definitely has potential to be before she leaves Texas A&M."

Nelson said that the high jump is the Lady Aggies' strongest event, with the return of All-American Sandra Hines and NCAA-qualifier Gwen Buck.

The coach said that several other jumpers have the potential to place.

"We have four or five competitors that will hopefully place at the SWC championship," he said.

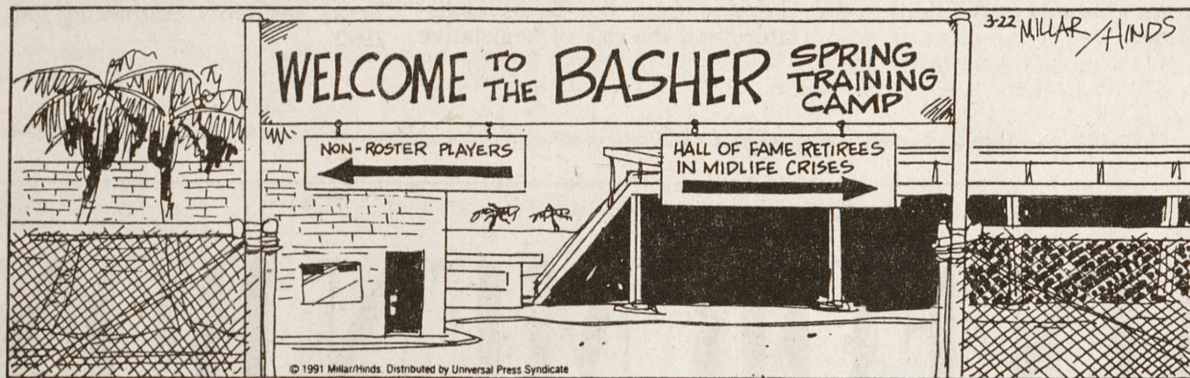
Hines was the SWC runner-up and finished fifth at the national meet last year, while Buck placed fourth in the conference.

Also filling the roster, sophomore Vikki Garcia was a provi-



TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



sional NCAA qualifier last season. Three freshman, Leigh Ann Crews, Beth Burket and Stacy Stewart are also expected to shine for the Aggies.

The 400-meter relay is also an Aggie strength, Nelson said. Three members of last year's team, which finished sixth in the conference meet, will return. Newcomer Kina McMillian joins veterans Rosalyn Hunt, Kasandra McDaniel and Yolanda Taylor.

The Lady Aggies find plenty of experience in senior distance

runner Connie Hand. She was the team's top competitor last season in both the 5000-meter run and the 10000-meter run. "Connie works very well for us," Nelson said. "She's steady, lines up everytime and does a good job."

Melissa Weaver is another good distance runner. "Melissa is a very good competitor," Nelson said. "She has the chance to be a national qualifier in either the 3000-meter run or the 5000-meter run this year."

McDaniel, a junior 400-meter

standout, also runs the 100-meter and the 1600-meter relay. "Kasandra is an all-around athlete who does a very good job for us," he said.

Junior half-miler Ginger Hoot is expected to place high in the SWC this year, and Nelson said sophomore heptathlete Kalleen Madden is running really well right now.

Madden set the school record and placed second at the SWC meet last season as a freshman.

Field event, hurdles will carry men's team

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meet a year ago. This year, Barker is a threat to take the national title in that event.

Senior Steve Collier will attempt to qualify for his third consecutive NCAA meet in the shotput. Three-fourths of an inch separated him from last year's SWC crown.

In the high jump, senior Wally Reid, who is coming off an injury, will join freshman Lee Pool, who was an indoor All-American this year, in a strong event for the Aggies.

Equally strong is the high hurdles with senior Greg Williams, seventh in the NCAA indoor meet held two weeks ago, and junior Nic Pollard, a transfer from McNeese State, who qualified for national indoors, as well.

Junior Danny Signorelli, likewise, qualified for the indoor meet in the pole vault and finished twelfth.

In the sprint category, the Aggies had large shoes to fill with the loss of their nationally renowned 400-meter relay. In the past seven years, A&M has finished in the top four in the na-

tion in that event.

None of the members of those relay teams remain, so this year's team of Pollard, Greg Williams, Kary Vincent and Kevin Sims has a heavy load to bear.

Although Nelson said they should fare well, he cannot help but feel apprehensive.

"I think we're going to be pretty good in the relay," Nelson said. "We just haven't run together. It's an unusual experience for me that we're going into this meet with no experience (in that event)."

Williams and Sims will also be faces to watch in the long jump.

Three weeks ago, the Aggies had their first outdoor meet of the year in the Border Olympics in Laredo. In that meet, senior Mike Howell took first in the long jump, and sophomore Mike Miller won the 800.

Two other sophomores won gold — Scott Paulsen in the discus throw and Teddy Reynolds in the shotput.

Saturday's College Station Relays will put the Aggies up against a strong Baylor team, Southwest Texas State, who Nelson said is a sleeper, SMU, and others.

Rangers outlast Twins, Mets slip past Astros

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (AP) — Jeff Huson's two-out single in the bottom of the 11th scored Rafael Palmeiro with the winning run as the Texas Rangers nipped the Minnesota Twins 3-2 Thursday afternoon.

Palmeiro opened the rally off losing pitcher Tim Drummond (0-1) with a double. He was sacrificed to third before Huson lined a 1-1 pitch into center field.

Kevin Reimer gave the Rangers a 2-1 lead in the fifth when he socked a pinch-hit, two-run homer off Paul Abbott. Kevin Belcher had walked ahead of Reimer's first home run of the spring.

Mets 5, Astros 3
Keith Miller's three-run double keyed a game-winning rally in the ninth inning and the Mets pulled off five double plays in beating Houston. Every run scored in the game was unearned.

Cards 2, Dodgers 0
Todd Worrell, pitching in a game for the first time since 1989, tossed a perfect inning and combined with Jose DeLeon and two other St. Louis Cardinals' pitchers to beat the

Pirates 9, Red Sox 6
Andy Van Slyke had two doubles and three RBIs as Pittsburgh beat Boston.

Braves 4, Expos 3
Dave Justice drove in two runs with a pair of doubles and scored the winning run on a ninth-inning sacrifice fly by Andres Thomas, to lift Atlanta over Montreal.

Royals 7, Tigers 6
George Brett's third home run of the exhibition season, a two-run shot, helped Kansas City beat Detroit. Cecil Fielder hit a solo homer, his second, for the Tigers.

Phillies 12, Yankees 5
Dave LaPoint, released by the Yankees over the winter, pitched four scoreless innings against his former teammates to help Philadelphia beat New York.

White Sox 5, Reds 3
Cory Snyder homered and drove in three runs as the Chicago White Sox beat Cincinnati.

Melido Perez started for the White Sox and pitched five innings, allowing one run and three hits. Bobby Thigpen pitched the ninth for the save.

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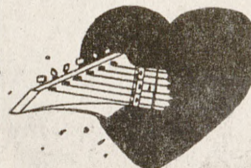
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