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Ags get set for Texas Relay

By Marcus White
THE BATTALION

The top 30 collegiate track and field teams in the country, including members of the Texas A&M men's and women's track and field teams, will converge in Austin this week for the 76th annual Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays.

The Texas Relays will also draw some of the world's top professional track and field athletes, including 2000 Olympic 100-meter gold medalist Maurice Greene and 100-meter world's record holder Tim Montgomery.

The Texas Relays have become one of the marquee track and field events of the outdoor season. University of Texas officials are expecting nearly 20,000 track and field fans to pack into the Mike A. Myers Stadium and Soccer Field.

"It's a good chance for individuals to go out and compete for conference qualifying bids, but it's really more about competition," said Kyle Stephens, associate UT athletic director. "This is arguably the second largest collegiate meet of the season. There is a higher level of competition across the board."

Traditionally, the Aggies compete in several outdoor events before the Texas Relays. Despite a lack of outdoor competition to prepare for the relays, A&M Head Coach Ted Nelson said he expects the meet to serve as an indication of how well the team might do in the Big 12 competition.

"This is an unusual situation for us in that it's only our second outdoor meet of the season. We're still in a kind of experimental stage," Nelson said. "This is also the first real prestigious meet of the season and it will be good for us to get out there and compete against the best athletes in the United States and see where we are as a team."

The Texas Relays mark the first outdoor competition of the season for seniors Timothy Bonn and Chris Pinnock, two Aggie men primed to make a powerful impact with Big 12 and NCAA implications. Earlier this season, Bonn placed third at the Big 12 Indoor Championships. Pinnock continued his success in big meets, finishing third in the men's 110-meter hurdles at the NCAA Indoor National Championships.



Sophomore distance runner Jesse Mader competes for the Aggies. The Texas Relays begin today.

Last season, Pinnock took third in the NCAA Outdoor Championships and second in the Big 12 indoor competition.

Last week the Aggie men and women finished second and third respectively at the Tommie Invitational in Houston, thanks in part to a standing performance by the Aggie thrower, which picked up five first-place finishes.

Senior Katy Doyle returned to action this weekend for the first time since undergoing "Tommy John" surgery to repair an injury to her elbow. After spending nearly two years in rehabilitation, Doyle overcame the potentially career-ending injury by taking home the gold medal at a regional NCAA qualifying bid in the women's javelin with a throw of 151 feet 8 inches.

"It was a tremendous return to competition for Katy," said A&M Associate Head Coach Marcinkiewicz. "She's worked very hard to get back into action and it's good to see her out there."

Doyle was part of a larger javelin team that swept the top five spots in both the men's and women's events. Junior Luke Marrs led the Aggies in the men's division (230-00).

The four-day Texas Relays begins today in Austin with the multi-events kicking off at

Piazza has suspension reduced

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Piazza's suspension for charging the mound in spring training was reduced to four games, and the New York Mets' All-Star catcher will start serving the penalty Wednesday.

The decision to shorten the ban by one game was made Tuesday by Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer. He heard Piazza's appeal Monday after New York's season-opening 15-2 loss to the Chicago Cubs.

"Naturally, I'm glad the suspension has been reduced," Piazza said. "I just want to put

this all behind me so I can concentrate on baseball the rest of the season."

The Mets were off Tuesday. If games are played as scheduled, Piazza would be able to return to the lineup Sunday against Montreal.

Bob Watson, baseball's vice president in charge of discipline, originally issued a five-game suspension and \$3,000 fine after Piazza charged Los Angeles reliever Guillermo Mota during an exhibition game March 12. Piazza, who had been hit by a fastball, later went into the Dodgers' club-

house looking for the pitcher. "I believe that we did our points effectively," Piazza said Monday after the minute appeal hearing.

Mota originally was suspended for five games, appealed and had it cut to three games last week.

Montreal slugger Vladimir Guerrero, suspended for four games for charging the mound in another spring training game, dropped his appeal. Exchange for the commissioner's office cutting the penalty to two games.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgendered Aggies:

The individuals listed below are members of the ALLIES program at Texas A&M. Each ALLY has attended a voluntary training seminar (known as an Advance), has resource information available, and has pledged to provide a "safe haven", a listening ear, and support for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered (GLBT) members of the Texas A&M community. If you need someone to talk to, contact an ALLY or look for the ALLY placard, posted near each ALLY's office or residence hall room.

You have An AGGIE ALLY

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 - Robert Capraro
 - Sian Carpenter
 - Denise Chapman
 - M. Carolyn Clark
 - Collie Conoley
 - Jane Conoley
 - Donna Davenport
 - Toby Egan
 - Tamara Franks
 - Ghada Georgis
 - Glenda Griffin
 - Elizabeth Hastings
 - Jan Hughes
 - Diane Kaplan
 - Gerald Kulm
 - Patricia Lynch
 - Susan Lynham
 - Drew Miller
 - Lisa Nichols
 - Linda Parrish
 - Jenny Sandlin
 - Patrick Slattery
 - Harriet Smith
 - Ralf St. Clair
 - Carol Stuessy
 - Roemer Visser
 - Deborah Yates
 - Laura Zions
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 - Tricia Bugajski
 - Carolyn Sandoval
- Admissions**
 - Pam Reynolds
- Agricultural Economics**
 - Richard Woodward
- Anthropology**
 - Cynthia Werner
- Athletic Acad. Aff.**
 - Tami Hawkins
- Athletics**
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 - Suzanne Shanks
- Biochem/Biophysics**
 - Kate Koles
- Biology**
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 - Rhoda Segur
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 - John Hogg
 - Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt
 - Elmo Mawk
 - Tammy Tiner
 - Danny Yeager
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 - Karla Anhalt
 - Christine Bergeron
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 - Harriette Andreadis
 - Giovanna Delnegro
 - Krista May
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 - Dale Baum
 - Jack Lala
 - James Rosenheim
 - Lora Wildenthal
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 - Doug Dohrman
- Instructional Tech. Svcs.**
 - Yakut Gazi
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 - Adam Collett
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 - Chieh Peng
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- Of. of Admissions & Rec.**
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- TTI**
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 - Eric Andraos
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 - Christopher Baker
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 - Stefanie Beaver
 - Elizabeth Bell
 - Stephanie Bell
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 - John Blackley
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 - Ben Bravo
 - Evan Brietzke
 - Chad Brinkley
 - Kenneth Brothers
 - Claire Brown
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 - Eric Bui
 - Mai Bui
 - Terri Buitron
 - Abby Bunning
 - Michelle Butler
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 - Risa Bierman
 - Carol Binzer
 - Erin Collins
 - Carolyn Cox
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 - Tracey Forman
 - Ann Goodman
 - Kristin Harper
 - Becca Minton
 - David Parrott
 - Rick Powell
 - Dennis Reardon
 - Laura Sosh-Lightsey
 - Brian Tenclinger
- Student Life Svcs.**
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 - Vicki Carter
 - Sheetal Desai
 - Deana Luza
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- Namita Kamath
- Mac Keely
- Sam Keen
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- Katie Kendall
- Christopher Kittle
- Katie Klauke
- Erin Knitt
- Kristi Krenek
- Kristin Kuhlman
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- Justin Kushera
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- Jonathan Lazerus
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- Erika McGrady
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- Lauren Mendeck
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- Joseph Williams
- Veronica Williams
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- Natalie Wilson
- Jennifer Woodson
- Melinda Wu
- Emily Yendell
- Kerri Yu
- Monique Ziebro

If you are willing to become an ALLY, a training session is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8th, 5:30-9:00pm TO REGISTER: please complete the online registration form at: allies.tamu.edu

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