

# LU thinlives grab five firsts

By JOE HEILING

Sports Editor

A bad case of dropouts kept the Lamar Cardinals from putting their best foot forward Saturday in the All Comers Meet at Ty Terrell Field.

But strong performances by hurdler Daniel Stagg, sprinter Kevin Bell and

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quarter-miler Jessie Kibbles kept down the disappointment over dropping the baton in the sprint and 880-yard relays.

The Redbirds figured in five first-place finishes, the same as Southwestern Louisiana, but a fleet band of Texas Southern Tigers were tops in the meet with nine winning efforts.

TSU had the day's lone double winner in Lee Walker, who tossed the shot 53-2 and flipped the discus 173-11.

The relays were to be Lamar's chance to bask in glory, but the Cards couldn't make connections. Mike Clark, a

freshman, was involved in both drops.

"We were really smokin' in the sprint relay until we dropped the stick," said LU Coach Sonny Jolly. "It was on the handoff to our third man. We were in good shape until then. But Clark and (Thomas) Lightfoot couldn't get the handoff completed."

It was the same in the 880-yard relay. This time, it was Clark and Stagg who were unable to complete their exchange without mishap.

"I had it in my hand," said Stagg afterwards, "but I couldn't pull away with it."

Even so, Stagg took off running, sans baton, and put on a burst of speed that saw Lamar come in second except for one minor oversight. The baton was laying on the track somewhere in the distance. Naturally, this disqualified the Redbirds.

Stagg won the 400-meter hurdles as expected, clipping off a 51.7, while Kibbles legged out a 48.8 clocking in the 400-meter

dash.

In the 100-meter dash, Bell and Michael Harris of Texas Southern both were caught by the timers' watches at 10.7 seconds and they had to share first place.

Another LU winner was Byron Hildebrand in the high jump. He, too, could only claim a piece of the action, sharing the top prize with Houston Baptist's Duane Broom after both cleared 6-6.

Lamar did capture the distance medley relay at 10:27.2, barely edging out USL. Carl Barnett ran the 880 leg, Clemmons Prevoist the 440 and Ernesto Briones the 1,320 before Ronny Root's finishing mile. Root caught and passed USL anchorman Lonnie Bissell less than 10 yards from the finish line.

USL's team of Vernon Harrison, Vernon Patton, Lawrence Johnson and Robert Buckingham prevailed in the mile relay with a time of 3:14.1, beating out TSU. Lamar was third.

The Cajuns' splits ranged from

Johnson's 48.1 to Buckingham's 48.9, but USL Coach Bob Cole said, "All of our guys are capable of knocking two seconds off that time. I think we can get down to a 3:06. All of our guys are capable of running a 46 on the fly."

TSU took both the sprint (41.5) and the 880 (1:26.8) relays while the Tigers' Darryle Hickey triumphed in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:06.4.

As expected, Prairie View A&M was the dominant team in the women's division. The Tigers took both the sprint (46.9) and mile (3:49.8) relays while Texas Southern captured the 880 relay in 1:42.2, beating out Lamar by a comfortable margin.

Although the Lamar women had a tough time of it, competing with the likes of Prairie View and TSU, Coach Karen Greenockle said, "Our times in the meet were better than what we've been doing in practice. So this is a sign of progress. It was our first meet and we have a lot of freshmen."

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