

Stiteler Praised by AP Writer

By ART HOWARD

Coach Harry Stiteler was the subject of an AP feature story by Harold Ratliff this week. Ratliff thinks that Coach Stiteler will be good news copy for the sportswriters this fall.

He quoted the coach's MacArthur-like statement that "We will run off the T formation . . . and not from it." Ratliff also was happy over the fact that Stiteler is frank in his statements and will say that he is going to win if he thinks he will. And optimistic coaches are about as scarce as hen's teeth in the football world. The only worry for the Aggie mentor is whether or not he can be optimistic when this fall rolls around.

Coach Stiteler was at least hopeful this spring when he said "We all realize that our prospects are not too bright, but I always have considered that a hustling ball club with the desire to win can offset to a great degree the lack of skill."

Ratliff remembers that the Aggie mentor was good copy, and a good coach, when he was in the high school league.

The scribe also said, "A change of coaching set-ups also has its effect. At least the season can be started without somebody knocking every move that's made even before one football is well-kicked. Thus a good start is possible; a good start can lead to great things."

The Dallas writer was no doubt referring to the much-publicized dispute here which was settled by the resignation of Homer Norton and the appointment of Coach Stiteler.

Word has been received in a round-about fashion that Stiteler will not have the axes at his door for the next few seasons even if he cannot produce a SWC winner.

The newly-acquired batch of A&M freshmen also came in for comment and praise from Ratliff. Although they cannot be used this fall, their presence and what they represent will materially boost the spirit of the whole school.

There is one thing for sure—A&M will not suffer from lack of publicity next football season.



Harry Stiteler Spreads Good Cheer



Training Camp Notes
ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 16 (AP)—The New York Yankees have the baseball experts second guessing themselves today. Before the start of spring training the experts figured the Boston Red Sox as shoo-ins to capture the American League pennant due to the acquisition of some grade A talent from the St. Louis Browns. However, the Yanks are turning up the Grapefruit League while the Sox are stumbling

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W.S.D. CLOTHIERS
College and Bryan

Ags Do Well Against Tennis Star

Barnes Teams With Sellars To Win Exhibition In Close Sets

By ART HOWARD

Bruce Barnes, former United States Singles Champion and Davis Cup Coach, teamed with Aggie Rodney Sellars to beat Bennett and Stanford, 7-5, 6-4, in a tennis exhibition in the gym last night. Over two hundred Aggies and wives were present to watch the tennis master play.

Bennett and Stanford were reluctant to give Barnes any chances at the ball in the first few games as they concentrated on Barnes' partner. But as the match drew on, they gave the visiting star more than his share of the volleys.

As was expected, Barnes was the best player on the floor. He served a slow slice for the first few games, but as the match drew on he changed to a cannon-ball service which gave Bennett and Stanford quite a lot of trouble.

Barnes conducted a "Tennis Clinic" on the concrete courts earlier in the day, drawing around 400 students who wanted to improve their game. He went over the fundamentals of the game, demonstrating grips, strokes, positions, and offensive and defensive strategy. Later he answered questions for the students and their wives.

Bennett and Stanford opened last night's game with a burst of serves and placements to run up a quick 5-1 lead.

Then Barnes and Sellars turned on the steam, breaking through their opponents services, racking up six straight games to take the first set at 7-5.

The second set was even, with each side holding its service until the final game. In that game Bennett served and ran up a 30-love score on an ace and a placement down the sidelines. Then a placement by Barnes and one by Sellars tied the score at thirty-all. Two net balls by Stanford then gave the deciding set and match to Barnes and Sellars.

Barnes, brought here through the courtesy of the Pennsylvania Rubber Company, gave advice to the Aggies through-out the match.

He did not, however, completely overshadow the rest of his teammates. All of the Aggies played a good match. Sellars displayed a fast service and some fine retrieving.

Tall Bennett had the smoothest serve of the night, a Western Roll which was hard to return off of the board floor.



Bob Conger is shown pitching Thomas Eubanks of A. Eng. over his shoulder under the watchful eyes of referee Cliff Ackerman in an intramural wrestling bout. Conger won the match right after this picture was taken when he got two points by flooring Eubanks. The final score was 2-1, in favor of Conger.

Fritz Crisler Resigns Position At Michigan U.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March 16 (AP)—H. O. (Fritz) Crisler, who guided Michigan to the apex of football glory, today ended his coaching career.

Even as he announced his retirement from the football bench, the handsome, graying, 49-year-old mentor named as his immediate successor Benny G. Costerbaan, his backfield assistant.

Crisler will remain the University's athletic director.

He started the sports world with his announcement shortly before midnight, attributing his decision to the "exacting demands" of his position as head of the department of physical education, athletic director and head football coach. The shrewd and canny chief stepped down in the year of his greatest triumph.

The Michigan coach discounted the suddenness of the announcement by saying he had been considering the move "for some time."

"His withdrawal as head coach and the appointment of Costerbaan was discussed and approved," he said, by the Michigan Athletic Board in control just prior to his announcement.

His 1947 squad rolled over nine opponents like no Michigan club had been able to do since the point-a-minute combine of the early 1900's.

The man responsible for the now popular and much used "T" formation is Coach Clark Shaughnessy—Stanford 1940.

Amos Alonzo Stagg invented the now famous tacking dummy in 1889 while he was coaching at Yale University.

Cage Tournaments Reach Climax This Weekend

NEW YORK, March 16 (AP)—Basketball tournament activity will reach its peak during the next six days. By Saturday night the U. S. Olympic tryout field will be completed.

About 50 games will be played on such scattered fronts as New York, Kansas City, Brooklyn, Denver, and Berkeley, Calif.

The University of Louisville won the gruelling 32-team NAIB tournament in Kansas City Saturday night to become the first quintet to qualify for the Olympic tryouts in New York, March 27, 29 and 31.

The winner of the National Invitation Tournament in New York Wednesday night will become the second team. And then on Saturday night the final six clubs will be determined. Three will come from the National AAU Playoffs in Kansas City, the Eastern N. C. A. A. playoffs in New York, and the National YMCA Tournament in Brooklyn.

NYU & St. Louis Win

NEW YORK, March 16—The St. Louis Billikens, a team of tremendous, almost professional poise, and New York University, rich in fire and spirit, will meet Wednesday night for the championship in the National Invitation Basketball Tournament.

Fourth-seeded St. Louis crossed up the tourney officials by expelling No. 1 ranked Western Kentucky last night, 69-53.

NYU, playing without the services of star guard Don Forman, outscraped and scrapped DePaul of Chicago, 72-59.

Wildcats Upset Aggies

KANSAS CITY, March 16 (AP)—The amazing Kansas State College Wildcats, collegiate basketball's "Cinderella Kids," will represent District Five in the Western Regional NCAA playoffs here Friday and Saturday.

An all-time record basketball crowd for Municipal Auditorium, estimated at 9,700, watched the hepped-up Cats, champions of the Big Seven, whip Missouri Valley titlist Oklahoma A. and M. Aggies, 43-34, last night.

Kansas State, only team to beat Oklahoma A. and M. twice this season, used a dazzling fast break for a 27-17 halftime lead then hogtied the Aggies at their own game—ball control—to win much as they pleased.

Cashion quarterbacked the fourth team, which also was strengthened by Hub Ellis, first-team center from Kilgore.

A freshman combination of Robert Smith at left half, Clarence Lawson at full and Jim Dobbyn at right half had Bruce Wallace as its quarterback and scored two victories.

Against the varsity fifth team, the freshmen team scored once on Wallace's 50-yard pass to Smith. Lawson added the point.

With a different line, the freshmen then smashed the varsity sixth team, 27-0. Dobbyn scored twice—around end for nine yards and on a pass from Wallace for 55 yards. End Averill Davis of Nederland

Fish-Southwestern Clash Here Thursday In Baseball Opener

By JAMES DE ANDA

Coach Tom Pickett's Aggie Fish nine inaugurates the 1948 baseball season at College Station when they meet Southwestern University's Pirates here Thursday.

The Junior Aggies took advantage of Saturday's sunshine to get a long-delayed workout. The practice session Saturday was climaxed by a few innings of intra-squad play.

Yesterday, Peck Vass, injured varsity regular, sent the first-year baseballers through their paces with the infielders getting a good work-out.

Houston and last season's freshman basketball team are well represented on the 19-man squad.

Infielders Sonny Bollman (Austin High School), Joe Savarino (Austin), catcher Bob Graham (Austin), pitchers Lawrence Ludkie (Jeff Davis), Harold Higgins (Jeff Davis), outfielders Henry Candelari (Jeff Davis), and Bill Warriner (Austin) are the seven Houston Cadets on the club.

Former basketballers on the team are infielders Guy Wallace of Dallas (North Dallas), Kenneth Sutton of Goose Creek, Wallace Moon of Bay, Arkansas, and John DeWitt from Waco. Outfielder Jim Melcher from Dallas (North Dallas) and twirler Truett Mobley who hails from Austin, also saw a lot of action on Coach Johnnie Frankie's quintet this past season.

Other members of the squad are Hilmer Schuelke of Lockhart, R. C. Gieske of Matador, and David Britt of Wheeler, who play in the outer



"WHO HAS THE BALL?" is the question on the above picture taken during spring training. Even the photographer doesn't know, but it is a cinch that some Aggie has it. COACH STITELER has been concentrating on these quick-opening plays, and Aggies will be able to see the results for themselves next Saturday when the final game of Spring training will be played.

Green Scores Only TD in Grid Scrimmage

Eugene Greene, a little-used reserve last season, shot through left guard for eight yards and the lone touchdown here Saturday as the Texas A&M first team defeated the third, 7-0, in an intra-squad football game lasting two quarters.

Greene, a fast, shifty halfback from Edna, also returned a punt 53 yards to overshadow the line blasting of Fullback Bobby Goff of Kenedy, the passing of Quarterback Jimmy Cashion of College Station and the line play of End Wray Whitaker of Houston and Tackle Jim Winkler of Temple.

Guard Odell Stautzenberger of San Antonio kicked the point.

Charles Royalty of Freepport picked up several nice gains for the third team, which was quarterbacked by Don Nicholas of San Angelo. Royalty is a freshman.

Buryl Baty's second team, featured by the running of Preston Smith, and the fourth team battled two quarters to a scoreless tie, although the No. 2 club drove 65 yards to the five before time ran out. Baty is from Paris, Smith is from Bryan.

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scored the other two on passes from Wallace for 45 and 13 yards. Smith is from Lamar at Houston; Lawson from Wichita Falls, Dobbyn from Abilene and Wallace, who became a junior at Midland, is from Coleman.

Smith, End Charley Hodge and Fullback Gene Witherspoon kicked the extra points.

Wilbur McBryde, 285-pound freshman tackle from Kerrville, left the scrimmage early because of a foot injury.

Next Saturday afternoon a regular intra-squad game will complete spring training on A&M's Sports Day.

Sports Calendar

Thursday—A & M freshmen baseballers play the Southwestern University Pirates here at 3 p. m.

Friday—Southwest Conference Swimming Meet preliminaries.

Aggie Baseball squad plays Brooke Medies here.

Tennis Match between Aggies and Vanderbilt Commodores.

Saturday—Sports Day. Intra-squad Football game at 2 p. m. on Kyle Field.

Baseball game between Aggie Baseball game between Aggies and Brooke.

Conference Swimming Meet here.

Intramural fencing begins at 2 p. m.

Brooklyn Dodgers Sign H. Foldberg

DALLAS, March 15 (AP)—Henry Foldberg, Jr., former Texas A&M and West Point football player, announced today that he had signed a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers of the All-America conference.

Foldberg recently resigned from the University States Military Academy where he was a star wingman. He was due to graduate in 1949 but left the academy to come to Dallas because of family financial matters.

Pop Warner of Carlisle was the first football coach to use the shift play. He used it in a game with Yale in 1900 as his team won, 25 to 0.

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