

SPORTS SHORTS

By JERRY WIZIG
Battalion Sports Editor

Southwest conference football fans may be able to view a game featuring SWC elevens on television nearly every Saturday next season if the National Collegiate Athletic association approves the plan of the Big Ten conference.

Television of football is the big headache facing the NCAA during its annual convention in New York this week. Some kind of change seems highly likely. Whether or not it will greatly benefit local fans remains to be seen, of course.

Big Ten Backs Regional Plan

Last season, under the present NCAA plan, only one game was available each week for television, and some of them didn't hold much interest for fans of this area. Southwest fans got to watch only three games involving SWC teams this year—Texas-Oklahoma, Baylor-Texas, SMU-Notre Dame.

Under the regional program presented by the Big Ten, each region would select its own games for television. (Each region presumably would include one major NCAA conference.) This plan also is supported by the Pacific Coast conference (although it's hard to picture, after what Big Ten teams have done to the Coast elevens in the last few Rose Bowl games.)

Several times the Big Ten has hinted it may withdraw from the NCAA or ignore the national game-of-the-week setup if it is adopted again. The Big Ten reportedly has received a million dollar offer for a conference game-

of-the-week. The conservative but powerful Eastern College Athletic conference is backing continuation of the game-of-the-week program, with a very limited amount of regional television.

These two, and three other proposals, will receive a "straw vote" by members to guide the TV committee in adoption of the 1955 program. But four members on the committee are from the East, so it seems likely that the ECAC plan, with some modification, will be adopted. The East has 101 of the 415 NCAA colleges.

If the Big Ten and the Pacific Coast members combined forces and gave definite indications they will bypass the NCAA, there would be a good possibility of a plan of half national-half regional television, a big improvement. Something tells me Texas fans would like to watch Texas teams on TV for a change.

Ramsey 'Honored' At Houston

At the recent conference basketball tournament in Houston, Morris Frank introduced Jones Ramsey, A&M sports publicity director, as "one of the great fiction writers of our time." To which Aggie fans reply, "Wait 'til next football season."

Talk about comebacks — the Aggie basketball team lost its first game at the Canyon tourney to West Texas State, 57-82, then the next night beat Pepperdine 86-84, scoring more points than an Aggie varsity cage team has ever scored.

Co-captain John Fortenberry set a tourney record by sinking 13 of 15 free throws against Texas, but Dick O'Neal of TCU broke it the next night.

Pat James, Aggie assistant football coach, might be interested in knowing that at least one member of the 1954 Fish team calls him "the meanest man on the campus." The player last week was quoted as saying "He's the only guy out there I can't handle" when James gets down and mixes it with the players. (He also has the voice that can be heard farther on the Aggie practice field than any other coach.)

James, Elmer Smith, Phil Cutchin and Jim Owens are attending the NCAA convention in New York. Head coach Paul Bryant didn't make the trip.

Bryant was second in voting for Texas senior college coach of the year by the Texas Sports Writers association.

Boxers Workout

The A&M Boxing club will begin nightly workouts at 7 p.m. tonight in the fencing room of DeWare field house, said James Earle, president.

Earle invited anyone interested in joining the club to attend.

Fortenberry, Brophy Lead Ags Against Owls

Sparked by cocaptain John Fortenberry and forward Bill Brophy, A&M's improved varsity basketball team opens its Southwest conference campaign tonight against dangerous Rice in Houston.

The Fish meet the Rice frosh, led by sensational 6-11 Temple Tucker, in a 6:30 p.m. opener featuring two undefeated teams.

Coach John Floyd sent his squad through a fairly light workout yesterday. The Aggies were due to leave by bus at 2:30 p.m. today.

Already winner of as many games as they won last season, the Cadets are rated about an even choice tonight. After losing by 25 points to West Texas State in the Canyon tournament, A&M downed Pepperdine 86-84 the next night, setting an all-time varsity scoring record.

Fortenberry, a junior who has played in only three winning games in his A&M basketball career, found his shooting eye, and combined with Brophy to help the Aggies put on a better-than-expected performance at the SWC pre-season tourney in Houston.

The Cadets beat Texas 66-61 in their meet opener, Fortenberry hitting 21 points, including 13 of 15 free throws, and Brophy 15. Fortenberry made 15 of 20 free throws against Pepperdine.

Against tourney-champ TCU, Fortenberry scored 19 and Brophy 15 in a 57-72 defeat. A&M stayed even for the first 25 minutes. Then 6-4 George Mehaffey, who had been doing a fine defensive job on 6-7 Dick O'Neal, got three quick fouls and fouled out with 16 minutes left.

In the consolation finals, the Ag-

gies lost to Arkansas 70-74 after tying the score 64-64 with two and a half minutes to play. Fortenberry, who made the second all-tournament team, had 19 points, Brophy 17.

Now sixth in conference scoring with 137 points, Brophy has hit 44 per cent of his shots and is averaging 15.2 per game. Fortenberry is seventh in the conference with 134 points, including 60 of 77 free throws. His average is 14.8.

Brophy leads the Aggies in rebounding with 80, followed by Mehaffey with 62.

Floyd tonight probably will start Pat McCrory and Roger Harvey at guards, Fortenberry and Brophy at forwards and Mehaffey at center.

Mehaffey sprained his ankle in practice Sunday but will be able to play.

Rice will open with Bobby Brashers and Monte Robicheaux at guards, Terry Telligman and Fred Woods at forwards and Joe Durrenberger at center.

Both the Aggie and Rice freshmen have won three straight games, but John DeWitt doesn't have anyone near Tucker's height. Ted Dockery, 6-5 center, probably will start the game guarding him. Tucker has scored 34, 27 and 32 points in Owllet wins over Allen academy, Victoria junior college and Wharton junior college.

He gets able support from 6-5 Tinker Wilson and King Hill at forwards and guard Dale Ball.

Brumbelow Talks To UofH Officials

HOUSTON, Jan. 4—(AP)—Mike Brumbelow, head football coach at Texas Western College of El Paso, conferred with University of Houston officials yesterday about the coaching vacancy here.

"No use kidding about it," Brumbelow said. "I'm a professional coach and I'm interested."

Brumbelow visited the campus Sunday and had conferences scheduled Monday with the university Athletic council and President A. D. Bruce.

"Brumbelow is here strictly on our invitation," Athletic Director Harry Fouke said. "He is one of the gentlemen and coaches we think highly of."

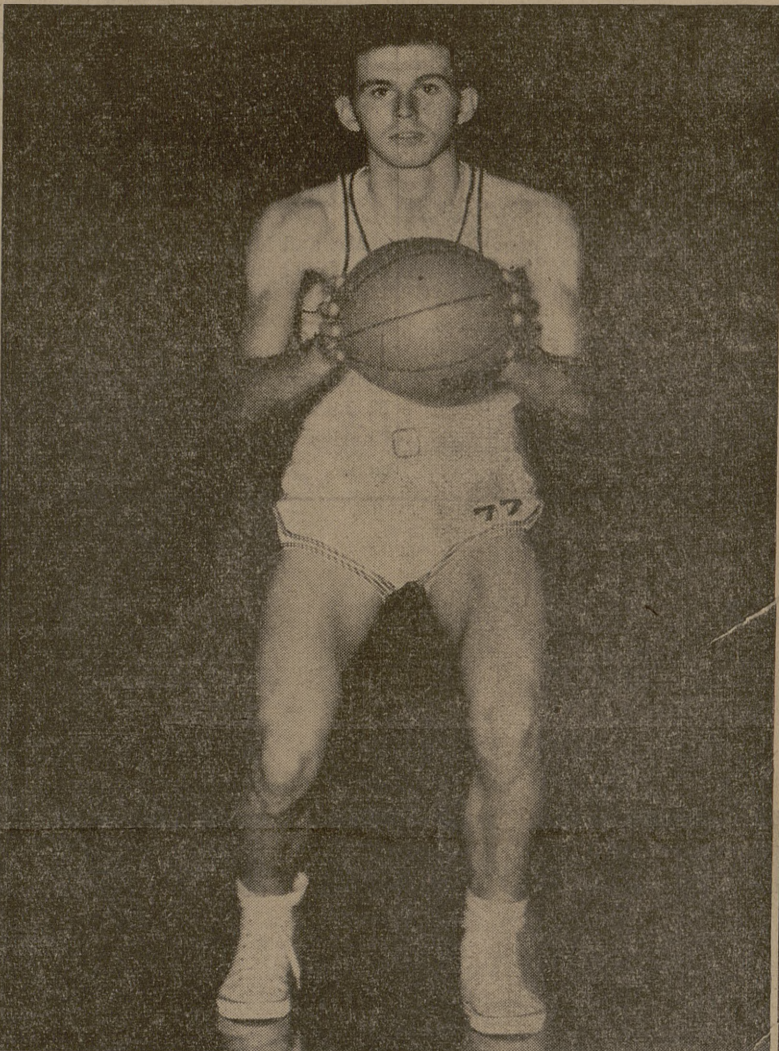
Brumbelow, Coach of the Year in the Border Conference, flew

here the day after his Texas Western team whipped Florida State 47-20 in the Sun Bowl. He plans to return to El Paso today. He played at Texas Christian university.

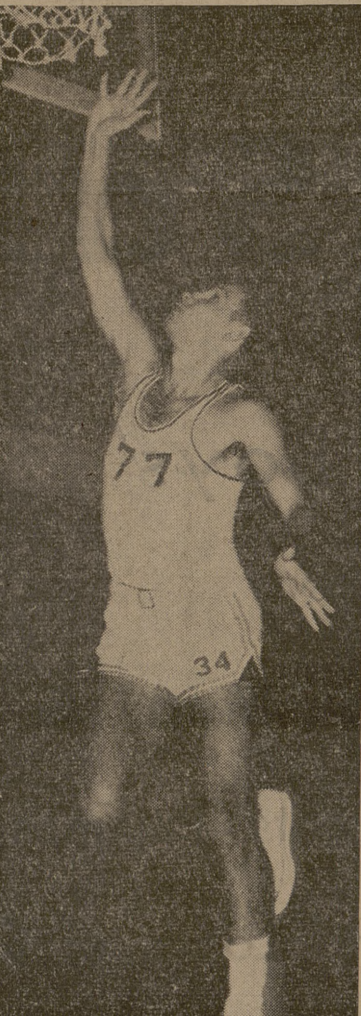
Indian Fan Club

CLEVELAND (AP)—Four pitchers on the Cleveland Indians are members of the "1,000 Fan Club." To be a member of the mythical society, a hurler must strike out 1,000 batters.

Bob Feller leads the active hurlers in this organization. He has fanned 2,538. Hal Newhouser is next on the Tribe with 1,788. Early Wynn has 1,172. Bob Lemon made it this year. He now has 1,030.



ALL SET—Forward Bill Brophy gets set for a two-handed shot. The 6-3 former Allen academy star is the leading Aggie pointmaker after a 47 point performance in Houston and 28 points against LSU.



Women Can Bowl In New League

A new women's bowling league is now being formed which is open to all women in the Bryan-College Station area.

According to John Geiger, manager of the MSC bowling alleys, the new league, which will meet on Friday nights, is open to everyone from the beginner to the most experienced bowler.

Tommy Cox, cocaptain, announced that A&M will meet Trinity university in San Antonio. The team is composed of the top 10 bowlers in the A&M Bowling club who have rolled nine or more lines.

Hollingsworth Third in Meet

Aggie trackman James Hollingsworth finished third in the 120-yard high hurdles at the Sugar Bowl track meet in New Orleans Sunday.

Originally scheduled for Friday, the meet was postponed because of rain.

A&M's mile relay team of Wallace Kleb, Bill Holloway, Robert McKnight and Johnny Roberts was fifth.

UP AND AWAY—Aggie co-captain John Fortenberry averaged 19 points per game in the conference pre-season tournament and made the second all-tourney team.

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