

Aggie Quintet Meets Rice Owls Here Tonight

Watching the Aggies

BY CARROLL ROBERTS
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WELCOME COACHES!! The new coaches have arrived at Aggiefield to make their home for the next month. They are jubilant over the Aggie prospects for next year and are anxious to start the spring training.

CAL HUBBARD was astonished at the size of A and M. When asked what impressed him most at first glances at the College, he said, "Well, I watched the boys march in to supper. It looked like thousands and thousands of boys marching. I just can't forget that sight. But the part about it that tickled me was the way the boys did when they got within about twenty feet of the mess hall steps. Without an exception, they all broke and ran for it."

A MERE 275 POUNDS!! And bubbling over with personality and good humor—that is Hubbard, the all-time, All-American tackle who will coach the thin Red Wall of Aggiefield during spring training and next year. When Jeremiah (Peck) Merka, Aggie guard and Jack Roach, center, first saw him they looked at each other and exclaimed, "Whew, he's a giant. I'm glad we're on his side!"

Something of the good humor and spirit of this massive player and magnetic leader can be gotten from a story told by Lon Evans, great TCU guard who played next to Hubbard on the Green-back Packers professional team. Evans said that Hubbard was always ready for fun and that one time they were playing against a team that Ox Emerson, great player from Texas University was on. When Hubbard learned that Emerson, who was playing opposite him was from Texas, he turned to Evans and said, "He's from Texas, let's give 'im the works"—and they did.

HERE'S A STORY from Huntsville that was overheard recently. A high school football coach of that city was talking to a friend and said that he had a player who he thought had inherent ability enough to be an All-American football player. "I hope that he gets under Norton because I know of no other coach who he would stand a better chance of shining under—and I have always wanted to have coached a man who made an All-American team." With such an attitude as this toward the Texas Aggie coaching staff, the future

for A and M athletics appears to be very bright indeed.

JOE MERKA, or better known as "Wimpy" among his basketball associates, was devastated itself with the Baylor Bears in Waco Saturday night. After making a total of 20 tallies in that game he was described by Jinx Tucker, sports scribe extraordinary of the Waco News-Tribune, as being able to stand on the bridge leading to the girls dormitory and chuck the ball clear to the gym and into the basket. Taylor Wilkins, sophomore guard who always has a bright track handy for all occasions, then brought back a story of just what Merka was doing on the bridge leading to the girls' dormitory.

ONLY ONE MORE WIN and the Texas Aggie basketball team will finish higher in the conference than they have since 1923 when they last won the championship. If the cadets win both of their remaining games, they will only be two games behind the conference champions, TCU. Of course "If's" don't count but just how close the Aggies came to the pennant this year can be realized by this one. If the Aggies had split the series with TCU, they would now be tied for the championship.

Coach John Reid has done a wonderful job of the Aggie team this year. At the first of the season little hope was given to the Aggie team and little was expected of them. Then Reid began to work with his two lettermen, Merka and Breazale, and his crop of sophomores and before long the conference had its eyes open and were watching the Aggies. The cadets had a fast neat working clear thinking cage team that put plenty of fire into the conference race.

BELL TO TCU!! Now that negotiations are being made between Francis Schmidt, head coach of TCU, and the Ohio State University concerning the head coaching job at Ohio State, one cannot help wondering who would succeed Schmidt. He intends to take his abse. assist. ant, "Bear" Wolf, with him in case he leaves.

When Matty Bell left TCU in 1929 he was very popular there. It will be remembered that Bell early started the Frogs on their road to football recognition. In 1927, everyone said that A and M had a team that couldn't be stopped—and it wasn't until it came

MERKA LEADS CAGE TEAM TO VICTORY OVER BAYLOR U

Star Aggie Captain Accounts for Twenty of Team's 34 Points.

After making a whirlwind start in the first half, and then allowing Baylor to take the lead in the second, Coach John Reid's Texas Aggie Cagers led by Captain Joe Merka staged a last minute rally to take the basketball game Saturday night from the fighting Baylor Bruins by a margin of 34-32.

During the first half, Merka hit his stride and almost by himself, as far as scoring was concerned, ran over the Bear team. The score at the end of the first half was A and M 20, Baylor 12. At the beginning of the second half, however, the Baylor lads began to stay with Merka and held him to no field goals until there was only three minutes left to play. During this time, Parks and Clark, star Bear forwards began to sink field goals and the score at the three minutes to play period was Baylor 32, A and M 25.

With his team on the small side of the score, Merka decided that his first half stalling should not be in vain and started an Aggie rally by sinking a long field goal. Wilkins, Aggie guard who always waits until late in the game to score, then added to this by making one of his famous long shots that was good. This gave the Aggies a one point lead and Shepherd then made good a free throw to get the other point.

The game was rough all the way through with both teams fighting hard. There were 39 fouls made and three Baylor stars were taken from the game because of fouling. Merka was high point man with a total of 20 points and Parks was second with 13.

Wrestling Opens As Major Intramural Sport March 5th.

New interest will be taken in intramural sports starting next Monday, March 5, which is the day set for the beginning of competition in intramural wrestling. Wrestling has always been one of the most popular of intramural sports and, because of the large number of contestants working out already, it is expected that more interest will be shown in it this year than ever before.

A new system in scoring for participation points will be inaugurated this year in wrestling. Instead of each organization receiving a fixed number of points for each man entered, the scoring will be more on the order of a track meet and the best showings made by the different organizations will be awarded rather than the mere entrance in the sport. Under this new rule it will be possible for a company to make as many as seventy points in wrestling alone. This new rule is applicable to boxing also, which sport will be taken up as soon as the wrestling is concluded.

Weighting in for wrestling will be held in the gym on Thursday and Friday afternoons of this week. The following weight classes will be maintained: 115-pound, 125-pound, 135-pound, 145-pound, 165-pound, 175-pound and heavy-weight classes.

Against Bell's Horned Frogs. The game ended in a tie and was the only blight against the Aggie record that year.

There is still a question of whether Schmidt will leave TCU, where he is satisfied, but a large salary and the attractions of a big 15,000 student body school are hard to resist. Every coach who is winning naturally thinks he could make good anywhere and Schmidt is likely no exception. With his job open, eyes naturally turn to Matty Bell as his probable successor.

Members of Tennis Team Begin Practice

Aspirants for the Aggie tennis team have been working out daily under Coach W. H. Thomas in preparation for dual meets with other conference teams and for the annual Southwest Conference tennis meet which will be held at Waco this year on May 13. Besides the conference meet, dual contests will be held with Rice and the University of Texas. The Rice match will

Conference Leading Scorer



Jack Gray, the holder of the Southwest Conference individual scoring record, will be a "marked man" when Coach Ed Olle's Texas University quintet meets the Aggies in Memorial Gymnasium Saturday night. Gray is a junior and hails from Wills Point.

TRACK TEAM WINS SECOND PLACE IN BORDER OLYMPICS

Irwin Wins Only First Place for A and M in Discus Throw; Skripka Takes Second.

Texas A and M's track team returned from Laredo last Friday bringing with them the second place that they captured the day before in the Border Olympic Track Meet held on Washington's Birthday. The cadets took one first, four seconds, and two third places to finish next to Coach Clyde Littlefield's Texas University Longhorns who retained their championship in this meet with 35 1/2 points.

"Honk" Irwin, Koss., big Cadet weight heaver was the Aggie to take a first place by sailing the discus a distance of 145 feet and 9 inches. In this event, A and M placed both first and second, Skripka taking the second distance.

Times for the meet were unusually fast for so soon in the season with several conference records being approached. In the preliminaries, Carr and Reeves of Schreiner lowered the record by making a time of 9.5. The summary follows:

120-yard high hurdles—F. Wilson, Texas; Herring, A and M; Randow, A and M; Casper TCU. Time 15 seconds.

440-yard dash—Cox, Texas; Green, A C C; Edwards, Texas; Akins, A and M. Time 51.5.

100-yard dash—Carr, Schreiner; Wallender, Texas; Rockhold, Texas. Time 10 seconds.

Mile relay—Texas (Archer, Cox, Wallender, Edwards); Abilene Christian; North Texas Teachers. Time 3.28.

Pole vault—Vance, Texas; Sewell, Texas; and Alexander, A and M, tied for second; Hester, A and M. Height 12 feet, 6 inches.

AGGIE SWIMMING TEAM MEETS SMU SATURDAY NIGHT

Contest Will Be Held Following A and M-Texas Basketball Game.

The Texas Aggie swimming team, under the tutelage of Captain Lenoard Nachman and led by their captain, Tommy Uhr, San Antonio, will officially open their 1934 season Saturday night, March 3, when the S M U Mustangs come here for a dual meet. The contest will start immediately after the A and M-Texas basketball game. An admission charge of fifteen cents will be made to all cadets and twenty-five cents to faculty-members and outsiders.

The Aggie swimmers have been working hard to overcome the disadvantage of a delayed start in practice, and the team is rapidly rounding into shape for a short but intensive period of competition. Besides the meet with S M U Saturday night, the Aggie schedule calls for the following contests: University of Texas Longhorns, defending champions here, on March 10 and at Austin on March 17; annual Southwest Conference meet here March 23 and 24.

Present indications are that the Aggies will be weak in the shorter free-style events this year but should be strong in a number of other races, especially the breast stroke, the conference record for which now is held by W. S. Sinclair, junior mechanical engineering student at A and M from Galveston. The twenty-one candidates for the Aggie team and their events are as follows:

Free style—Captain Tommy Uhr, Ed Reichardt, L. M. Sommers, Kurt Seidel, and C. K. Swanson, all of San Antonio; Bob Osburn, Fort Sam Houston; O. R. Simpson and Harry Wilder, Corpus Christi; R. R. Simpson, El Paso; C. F. Roberts, Sugarland; W. E. Wilson, Wichita Falls; R. J. Hodge, Pledger; J. M. Stevenson, Abilene; Joe Cockrell, Dallas.

Breast stroke—W. S. Sinclair, Galveston; Osburn and R. C. Halter, San Antonio. Back Stroke—Newt Hiescher, Beaumont; L. B. Cox, Houston; George Commas, Cuero. Fancy diving—Bob Porter and George Cox, both of San Antonio. Individual medley—Osburn and Sinclair. Free style and medley relay teams, as well as the water polo team for the conference meet, also will be picked from these candidates.

'Outcome of Game Will Depend on Aggies Ability to Guard Kelley

Buoyed up by the hope of finishing second in final Southwest Conference cage percentage, Coach John Reid's youthful Texas Aggies will entertain the Rice Institute Owls here tonight on the Memorial Gymnasium court at 8 o'clock. If the Aggies win, they will clinch at least a tie for eventual second place, a ranking they have not reached in many years. Their best showing of recent years was third place in 1933.

Facing the Aggies again will be Rice center who gave them so much trouble at Houston early in the season when the Owls trimmed the Cadets by a 38 to 31 count. In that game Kelly not only gave his team the tipoff consistently but also tallied fifteen points for individual scoring honors. The task of stopping him and also getting some of the tipoffs will fall to Aggie Captain Joe Merka, of Bryan, who now ranks among the leading individual scorers in the conference.

Besides having their principal scoring threats at the pivot position, the Aggies and Owls are closely similar in at least two other respects. They rate almost equally in respect to offensive and defensive ability, judging from their own and opponents' scoring tabulations. And each can offer a sterling sophomore guard, the Aggie's listing Taylor Wilkins, of Franklin, and the Owls having R. T. Eaton. Just as Wilkins' goal tossing from his guard post has pulled the Aggies out of several tight spots, so has the work of Eaton made the way easier for the Owls.

The Owls will come here after having had two hard games over the week-end, one with the S M U Mustangs and the other with the Champion Texas Christian Horned Frogs. The Aggies have seen no action since Saturday night, when, after receiving the scare of their season, they came from behind in the final three minutes to defeat the Baylor Bears 34 to 32.

might be billed as a "Battle of Sophomores" for at least eight of the starters, three for Rice and four for the Aggies, probably will be first-year varsity men. The Owls probably will start Captain Harry Journey, a junior, and Harry Witt, sophomore, at forward; Kelly, a sophomore, at center; and Eaton, a sophomore, and Tom Brummet, senior, at guard. The Aggies' tentative lineup includes Captain Merka, a senior at center; Max Tohline and Johnny Davis, sophomores, at forward; and Wilkins and Monte Carmichael, sophomores, at guard.

TCU Wins Southwest Conference Basketball Championship

When SMU beat Rice Saturday, the TCU Horned Frogs stepped into Southwest conference basketball championship. The Frogs increased their margin of leadership by then coming out and defeating Rice Monday in their last game of the season by a score of 42-35.

This makes the second time in the last four years that the Frogs have taken the basketball championship under the leadership of Coach Francis Schmidt.

The race between second, third, and fourth places is still open with A and M leading the field over Rice and Arkansas as the favorites for this second position. Of the games to be played yet, the Aggies would have to lose both games and Rice or Arkansas would have to win both their remaining games in order to oust the Aggies from the second position.

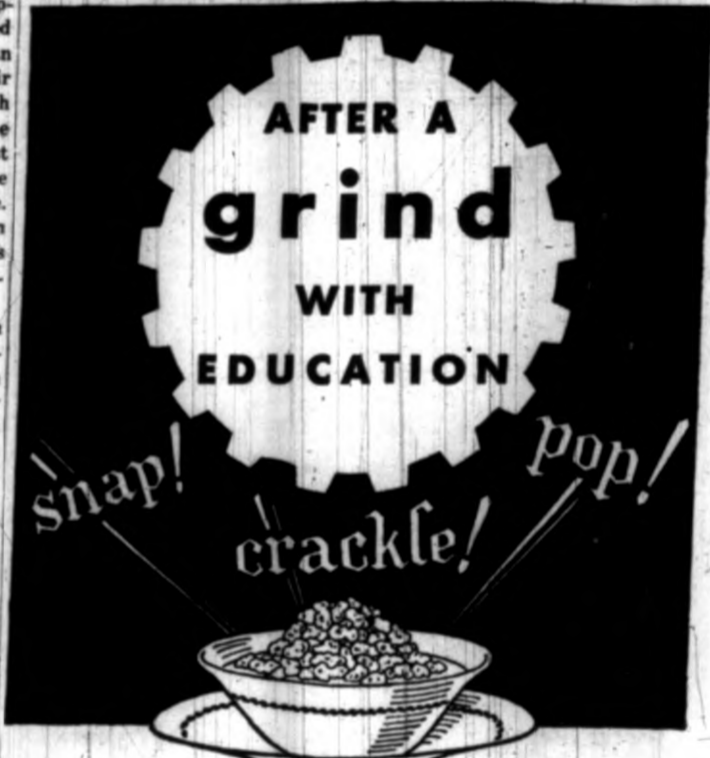
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