

# Aggies Will Battle Arkansas On Kyle Field Saturday Afternoon



COACHES DEVELOP NEW MATERIAL

Five Sophomores were in the starting line-up when the Texas Aggies started their hostilities against the Baylor Bruins in Waco last Saturday. They were: Les Cummings and Doc Pitner in the backfield, and Bill Stages, Selmer Kirby, and Charley DeWare, Jr., in the line. Wilkins, Willis, M. Crow, and Thompson are squadmen who started, leaving only two lettermen to get the call. They were Bill Couser and John Crow. These men all performed in great style as the Aggies won their first conference victory of the season and the first win in the last five starts.

It was in that game with new material for the most part that Coach Norton first saw any real results of his teachings that he has so earnestly been trying to get over since he has taken over the coaching obligation here. Blocking is one of the chief weapons of a finished Norton coached team and he could see the light on his work in the Baylor game. It is not perfect yet by any means, but he is already reaping results. Another thing that brought smiles to the good natured Aggie mentor was the way those Fighting Aggies were tackling the opponents. Instead of one man being responsible for the runner there were three and four men on every Bear that started down the field.

Both Norton and Hubbard are disregarding the fact that a man has a reputation and are playing the men that are hustling and want to play good, hard, rough and tough football. No man has a place cinched on this Aggie ball club, because the man that puts out the most in his particular position the week of the game gets the call.

It has been stated before in this column that Norton develops players instead of getting the finished product. The statement was proved by pointing out the number of All-American and All-American mentions that have come out from under his tutelage after being turned down by schools with money. Aggie supporters are getting a first glimpse of his work this year and can see the same production cropping out from his coaching. Les Cummings came to the varsity as a center and was shifted to the backfield and has been improving rapidly. It was Cummings that kicked the field goal at Baylor that meant the difference between a tie and a victory. In the line Cal Hubbard chose three sophomores to start the game. They were Stages, Kirby, and DeWare. DeWare was the only one that had been chosen as a starter before, and his initial time was against T C U, October 27.

A and M is not expected to have a championship ball team this year. Nothing like championship material is available and too much should not be expected of the Aggie team. No one should expect any outstanding stars to appear this year as this process of developing stars comes out of developing teams and that is a slow process. If the Aggie team gets in and puts up a good fight, whether it wins or loses, it should be looked upon as a success.

Whether or not you term the Aggie situation to date a success (and nothing justifies anyone to expect any more), the Aggie coaching staff will have to be given credit for gaining what success it has through its own labors, as it has gone where it has through what it has developed and not what was donated.

## AUSTIN SPORTS WRITER EXPLAINS HIMSELF

I clipped the following article from Hop's column of the Sunday morning issue of the Austin American. The "Texas Aggie" is an excellent student publication. The article should be of interest to Aggies on the campus as it shows that Aggies on the outside are still supporting the team and can look farther than the first few games or even the first season to see the success of Aggie teams.

"The Texas Aggie," A and M student publication, in a recent issue figuratively dragged us over the coals for commenting in this column over the failure of the "new football deal" at College Station.

From time to time during the past few weeks we pointed out that a chain of happenings indicated that "something was wrong" at Aggieland. Among these happenings was the sudden resignation of Dean Kyle, chairman of the athletic council; criticism by warm Aggie adherents of Coach Homer Norton's showing to date; and then the mysterious withdrawal from school of Pete Barber, tackle, who Line Coach Cal Hubbard, earlier in the season, had termed an all-American performer.

The "Texas Aggie" stated in effect that we were laboring under an illusion; that Dean Kyle had decided to resign before the football season had opened; that Barber was famed for "taking Dutch leave from school"; that Aggieland was behind Coaches Norton and Hubbard 100 per cent, and paid its respect to us in NO uncertain terms.

## REMINISCENCES OF AGGIE ATHLETES

Although he played ball at A and M during that glorious reign of Joel Hunt, who seemingly overshadowed other outstanding athletes of these years, J. V. Sikes was making a reputation for himself at Aggieland that will long be remembered. Sikes was a football, basketball, and baseball star and letter three years in each sport. In his freshman year he also made numerals in those three sports.

In football he made that powerful 1925 team his sophomore year and was an All-Southwest Conference mention at the end position. It was this first year of varsity competition that he made a record

We would call the attention of the "Texas Aggie" to the fact that we have never been laboring under an illusion in regard to the situation at A and M. On the contrary we simply pointed out that circumstantial evidence indicated there was "something wrong" at the school. Since then we have been informed from different sources that everything is "lovely" at Aggieland; and that the whole trouble is lack of football material, particularly in the backfield. All of which was most pleasing news to us, since we have the school's best interest at heart.

F. S. Robbins, devout Aggie supporter, writes to question the ability of Dana X. Bible and Matty Bell, former coaches at A and M, and then concludes by praising Homer Norton, present mentor, who he says will "show 'em something yet."

Says Mr. Robbins: "I noticed in your column today that you said the Texas-A and M game Thanksgiving would be a 'mere formality.' Last Monday you said the Aggies were 'null and void' this season because 'they simply haven't got it.'"

"I ask that you publish that miserable record A and M had under Dana X. Bible after he had been there a number of years. I believe it was in 1922 or 1923 and as I recall the only conference game A and M won was from Texas U. It may or may not be the same this year, but for comparative purposes I wish you would publish that record for the football fans' benefit.

of which Aggieland is still reminded. The Aggies were playing the University of Texas Longhorns on Kyle Field on Thanksgiving Day. Sikes intercepted a Texas pass on the Aggies eight yard strip and ran 92 yards for a touchdown. The Aggies won the game 28 to 0. In his junior year he was All-Southwest Conference end. In Sikes' last year of eligibility here he was a member of that strong 1927 Championship club and won honors as All-Conference end, All-American mention and on that big West team that put the East in the hole 16 to 6.

Sikes was a star in basketball as well. In his freshman year he

## Aggie 'B' Squad Loses to Lamar Gridders, 13-6

Cardinals Score First Touchdown in Second Quarter; 63-yard Run by Merka Features Aggie Offensive.

With only a few days in which to practice as an organized team, John Reid sent his Aggie "B" squad against the Lamar Junior College Cardinals Friday afternoon at Kyle Field and the strong Lamar team, which went to the finals in the state last year in junior college competition, defeated the Aggies 13 to 6.

The Cardinals started right off gaining and began to penetrate Aggie territory at will. After calling time, the Aggies collected themselves and strengthened their defense and an exchange of punts began to feature the game. Through the entire first half, the B team was kept well on the defensive end of the play but some good punting by Wilson cleared the Aggie cause a number of times.

Wilson punted well every time he kicked and helped the Aggies out of some tough spots. In the line, Whitfield, Tohline, Zich and Wessendorf looked well.

The starting lineup for the Aggies was: Goldsmith and Tohline, ends; Whitfield and Zich, tackles; Maxwell and Haynes, guards; Wessendorf, center; Merka, Hull, Wilson, and Howard, backs. Reserves who played were Johnson, Kasmarek and Moore.

## AGGIE CAGERS TO BEGIN TRAINING FOR '35 SEASON

Taking advantage of every available minute of time the Southwest Conference allows for basketball practice, Coach John Reid will start basketball practice Thursday at the gymnasium. Coach Reid's cagers won second place in the conference last year.

The greatest problem of the season will be to fill the vacancy at center left by Joe Merka who has won All-Southwest Conference honors the past three years in school as well as receiving All-American mention last year. Merka has been the most valuable man to the Aggie squad the past three years.

Eight lettermen and a number of squadmen and sophomores will be back. There will be a number of each group that will contest for the place left vacant by Merka.

Those who start training Thursday are: lettermen, Captain Breazeale, Crockett; Carmichael, Lamkin; Hutto, Coahoms; Bisby; Houston; Davis, Amarillo; Stansil, Gueyden, La.; Shands and Noelke, who were on the squad last year, will be back.

Of the sophomores who will make a bid for the varsity are Helbing, Cox, Evans, Jones, Lee, Creighton, Black, Schriever and Button. Taylor Wilkins and Max Tohline will not take part in practice until after the football game with Michigan State at San Antonio, December 8.

made his numeral at the center position, and was captain of the fish team. In the 1925-26 season he played forward on the team that won eight of their games during the season. In his junior year he was shifted to the center position where he was recognized as one of the leading centers in the conference. The leadership shown by the lanky center caused his mates to elect him captain of the '27-'28 team. In an attempt to build a better defense for a team that was not any too successful, Sikes was shifted to the guard position.

Sikes played baseball his freshman year and lettered in varsity baseball his sophomore, junior, and senior years. The first year on the varsity he was a regular first baseman. In the last two years he was used both as a first sacker and a pitcher. In making a numeral and three letters in each of the three sports, football, basketball, and baseball, Sikes made a record as a great all-around athlete and accomplished a feat that few have done either in this school or in the entire conference.

## RAZORBACKS ARE UNBEATEN TEAM

To Be First Visit of Thompson to Aggieland for Grid Game in Four Years; Farmers Expectant of Victory

Next Saturday afternoon down on historic Kyle field, Coaches Homer H. Norton and Cal Hubbard will line their maroon and white clad Aggie football players against the strong, undefeated aggregation compiled by Coach Fred Thompson as he places the first University of Arkansas team to play on Kyle field in four years.

Fresh from a glorious victory over the Baylor Golden Bears, the Aggies will be in there fighting to hand the Arkansas Razorbacks their first conference defeat of the season. The fact that the Razorbacks are due to beat the Aggies will not take any of the fight from the Cadets.

The Hogs lost only one conference game last year and that was to the then lowly Rice Owls 5 to 7. They have practically the same team back this year that unofficially won the Southwest Conference championship a year ago. The only serious loss was Murphy, a quarterback. The Aggies and the Hogs did not meet last season.

Coach Thompson's University of Arkansas eleven has won the only two conference games they have played this season by defeating T C U and Baylor. They have a

very strong and heavy defensive club. In the game with Baylor, the Razorbacks completely smothered the Bear running attack. In the line they will have Rucker, end; Benton and Measel, tackles; Spivey, guard. In the backfield will be La Forge and Biddle, both of whom were on All-Conference teams. The Razorbacks boast a shifty and fast backfield that is very capably handled by LaForge, rated as one of the best field generals in the conference. Their principal offensive threat is composed of Ralph LaForge, George Jordan and Gesler.

The Aggies should be able to hold the Razorbacks on their passing offense as they held the Baylor passing attack until the last minute spurt which was executed in extraordinary style by Joe Jack Pearce, who was performing over his head in one of the Baylor's well known last minute passing threats.

The Farmers are stronger at ends than they were at the beginning of the season. Wilkins has been improving and Stages, who started the game against Baylor, looked better. Selmer Kirby, from Amarillo, who played his first game as an Aggie starter, made a good account of himself. The line will be much harder to make a gain over than in previous games. The backfield recruits have shown the best of any combination this season.

The game is due to be a battle when the fighting Farmers defend themselves against their much heavier opponents here Sat-

urday, November 3. The Hogs will be fighting to remain in the conference race with Rice Institute Owls who have not been defeated this season and the Aggies will be battling for another conference win.

Nearly 500,000 Texans depend on the oil industry for a living. The industry is second only to Agriculture in the state.

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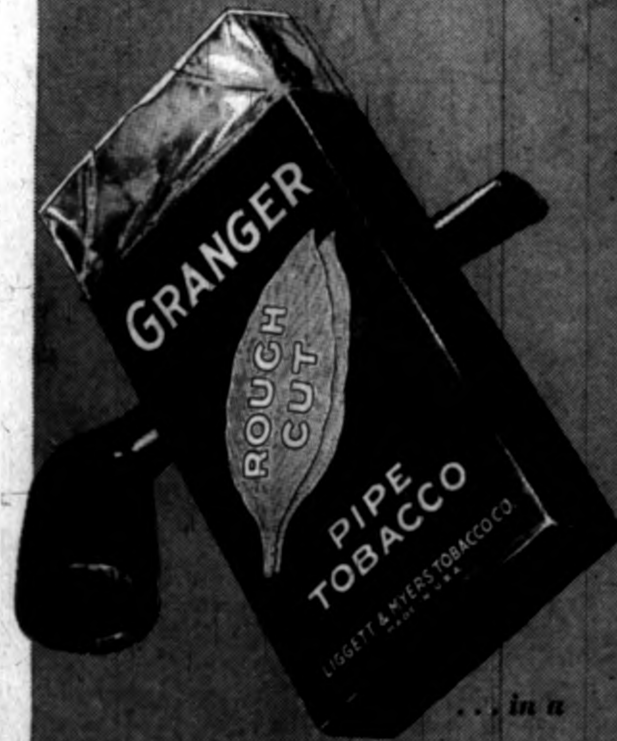
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