



Basketball Team Is Better Than Was Supposed; Teams Shows Much Fire and Vim

This writer received a joyous surprise Saturday night in the way Captain "Woody" Varner and his basketekers beat the visiting T. C. U. team.

The Frogs lost, 41 to 57, to Rice the night before and looked pretty good in doing so, but they were hardly in the same class with the hustling cadets.

"Big Dog" Dawson gave us the

biggest surprise by scoring 10 points after being out for the team only since the Sugar Bowl game. He trailed Bill Henderson, the high-point man, by only one point. Dawson did not get to go the whole contest because his wind is not yet built up for the cage game, but by next Saturday when they meet Baylor he should be ready to go the route.

Aggies Are First Southwest Grid Team To Be Hailed As National Champs

S. M. U. went through undefeated and untied until the Rose Bowl game in the 1935 season. T. C. U. went through undefeated and untied including the Sugar Bowl game last year and ended up by sharing the national title with Tennessee. But the Aggies went through undefeated and untied, including the Sugar Bowl and they are declared worthy national

champs all by themselves this year. IT IS THE FIRST TIME A TEAM FROM THE CONFERENCE HAS FOUND ITSELF WITH SOLE POSSESSION OF THE TITLE. All of the above is according to the Williamson Rating System.

It is planned that this writer will present Williamson's All-American awards to the Aggie players.

Stern Worked Rose Bowl Game In West But Says, "My Heart Will Be In Dixie"

Received the following letter from Bill Stern. He wrote it before the New Year's game.

Dear Jeep:

Believe me I've never been so touched in my life, as I was when I received the wonderful "Aggie" jacket, and I'm proud to wear it.

Consider me a member of the student body, for I tell you of all the colleges I've ever gone to any place in these United States, none impressed me as much as did Texas A. & M.

I'm sorry I'll not be in New Orleans to do the Sugar Bowl game, but as Gillette Razor bought it, and they advertise a shaving soap, and as you know I'm on on Sunday nights for Colgate Shaving Cream, it just couldn't be done. Instead I'll be in California doing the Rose Bowl, but my heart will be in Dixie.

Thanks again for this wonderful remembrance of your splendid college.

Sincerely yours,
Bill Stern.

Texas' Bird Life Is Richer Than That Of Any Other State

Birds have an aesthetic and an economic value far beyond the appreciation accorded them by people generally. A prominent theologian, himself a naturalist, once remarked that a man cannot be a bad man if he is studiously interested in wild creatures.

The above are the opening and closing sentences of "Brief Studies in Texas Bird Life," by a member of the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission's staff, a booklet with illustrations depicting different kinds of birds, issued by the Game Commission.

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North Gate

Texas, it is claimed, is richer than any other state in the number of birds and the variety and species found there. Approximately 700 species and sub-species have been listed. The claim is probably well founded in the fact that Texas is the largest in area of all the states, with physical features of high elevations, plains and sea-level. The warm climate in winter along the Gulf coast is a natural attraction to migratory birds and these supplement the native variety which includes the mockingbird and many others, among which is the lovely plumed American egret whose range is on the Texas coast and, when the nesting season is over, is sometimes found wandering over the southern and central part of the state. This beautiful bird, with others, once faced extinction when it was hunted chiefly for the plumage with which to adorn ladies' hats. It was saved by the Federal Migratory Bird Law of March 4, 1913.

In south-central and west Texas it is probable there are more wild turkeys than anywhere else in the country. The turkey, distinctly a North and Central American bird, was introduced from Mexico into Europe by the Spanish conquerors and subsequently brought back to the New England States by the Puritan settlers.

National and state achievements in conservation of wildlife are important for many reasons besides adding greatly to the attractions of recreational areas. The National Park Service in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Biological Survey is accomplishing on a nationwide scale what the Texas Commission and similar departments are doing in the several states. The trumpeter swan, largest of North American wild fowl, like the egret had become a vanishing race. Reports from Yellowstone Park show it is again on the increase, there being 70 adult birds against 44 in the flock at the park last year. There are now only about 200 trumpeter swans in the entire country.

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'Unloaded' Gun Kills, Game Officials Warn

Austin, Texas.—With the hunting season in full swing in Texas, the executive secretary of the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission has issued an appeal to every sportsman to treat every gun as if it were loaded, and has set out a series of rules, which if observed, would do much to lessen the tragedies of accidents in fields and woods.

"It is the 'unloaded' gun which does the most damage," the game chief pointed out, "and if the following rules are observed there will be more sportsmen to take the fields another day."

Carry only empty guns, taken down or with the actions open, in your automobile, camp or home.

Always be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.

Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle, even if you stumble.

Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.

Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.

Never leave a loaded gun unattended.

Never climb a tree or fence with a loaded gun.

Never shoot at a float, hard surface, or at the surface of water.

Always remember alcohol and gunpowder should not be mixed.

Times-do-change note. Gustavus Adolphus College men have handed down this order to their feminine colleagues: "Don't appear to be a helpless and fragile creature. The 'clinging vine' type went out with the bicycle built for two."

Aggie Cagers Defeat Frogs, 44 to 31

Conference Opener Easy Win For Team

Dawson, Bill Henderson, Tinker Leading Scorers

Saturday night the Aggie cagers opened their conference schedule here by beating T. C. U. 44 to 31, and served notice on the rest of the teams that the boys from East of the Brazos are going to have to be dealt with in all seriousness.

Last year the Aggies won only two conference games, both of those over these same T. C. U. Horned Toads. The Toads did not win a game last year. In fact, they started this 15 game losing streak with the last game two years ago.

Tom Tinker stepped out and looped a two-pointer to start the fray and then added another. The Frogs then pulled up to a 4 to 4 tie, but with Dawson and Tinker "hot" in the first half, the cadets pulled away and enjoyed a 30 to 14 lead at the half mark.

The Toads had a little better luck in the second half, but with Bill Henderson coming to life to take high point honors during the second period, they were never able to catch the high-flying cadets.

Dawson was plenty good considering that he has only been out for the team since last Wednesday. He started the game and was second in scoring, but he had to call time out to rest and did not have the wind to go the full tilt.

Baylor Next

Coach "Bear" Wolfe brings his fast-breaking Baylor aggregation here Saturday night and after that fray a lot more will be known about the strength of the cadets.

If the cadets have any hope of winning that fray they will have to hold down the point-making of Creasy, an All-Conference boy last year.

For the past two years the game between A. & M. and Baylor at College Station has been the big thriller for the home people. The Aggies have played the Bruins on even terms in those two games and have split. Two years ago the cadets won out in an overtime.

It is hard to say just who the Aggies will have in the starting lineup this week. There is a battle going on for a few of the spots and it is only a guess who will be looking the best by Saturday.

Texas A. & M.		T. C. U.	
Ft	Pt	Ft	Pt
Tinker, f	2 2	Duckworth, f	4 0
Smith, f	3 1	Barron, f	2 0
Dawson, c	4 2	Billingsley, f	2 0
Varner, f	0 0	Best, f	2 0
Henderson, g	5 1	Abney, c	2 0
W. Adams, g	2 2	Groseclose, c	0 2
Stevenson, g	1 0	Monroe, g	2 1
Duncan, c	1 0	Holt, g	2 1
R. Adams, f	0 0	Canaday, f	0 0
		Tankersly, g	0 0
Totals	18 44	Totals	14 31

Personal fouls: Duckworth 2, Barron 4, Abney 2, Monroe 2, Holt, Billingsley, Best, Groseclose 2, Tinker 2, Smith 2, Varner, Henderson 2, R. Adams 2, Duncan 1.

NAVY SPEEDS UP TRAINING OF AVIATORS

The Navy Department, in an effort to speed up the expansion of its air forces, has streamlined the period of training aviators in such a way that the student now completes his training, as naval aviator, in about eight months. This has been accomplished by increasing the facilities of the Aviation Training School at Pensacola, Florida. More planes, more instructors and more working hours per week have been added to this already busy beehive of aerial activity.

The number of students to be trained has already been doubled and the Navy busy recruiting young college men for this interesting duty. A Selection Board, composed of Naval officers, is busy traveling throughout the South, holding meetings in most of the principal cities.

To be eligible for this training, candidates must be unmarried American citizens between 21 and 27 years of age, and have a minimum of two full years of college education. They also must be at least five feet, six inches in height, and weigh at least 132 pounds. They must pass a rigid physical examination. Selected candidates may have their choice of time of going to Pensacola, as classes assemble each month.

After the training period at Pensacola, Florida, the students are commissioned as officers of the Naval Reserve, and sent to duty with the aviation units of the United States Navy. They receive the full pay and allowances of their rank.

To young men interested in aviation, this presents a marvelous opportunity to acquire an aviation experience which gives them an unusually high rating in this profession. Interested parties are urged to write the Senior Member, Naval Reserve Flight Selection Board, U. S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida.

INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS

By HUB JOHNSON

With the fine weather Friday evening, four games of speedball were checked off the list. E Engineers claimed a win over G Infantry, the leading crew, F Engineers won over B Chemical Warfare, and B Field Artillery downed L Infantry. The fourth game was forfeited by C Cavalry to I Infantry. Those games that were played proved to be a bit faster than usual due to the slight coolness of the weather.

The tennis tournament will come to the next to the last step tomorrow evening with A Field and C Field due to scrap it out with every trick one could find in the bag to pull on the courts. This ought to be the best match of the year, even better than the final which will be between the winner and E Engineers.

A play-off for the league title is League C is the hold-up of the touch football play-offs. C Field Artillery, F Engineers, and G Coast Artillery are the teams in the three-way tie. The first game to break this will mean much, since the top two teams of the year, F Engineers and C Field Artillery, are the teams concerned.

Others waiting for the final to start include: 1st Hq. Field; I Infantry; C Cavalry, which won over B Field in a tie play-off; C Engineers; Infantry Band; Artillery Band, which claimed League G after tying with C Infantry; and Hq. Signal Corps, which still has one game to go but holds that margin on its league members.

A Coast and A Signal Corps have laid claims to the handball championships and are waiting idly by for the rest.

A Chem Warfare holds a four-win record over C Coast and 2nd Hq. Field Artillery who have one loss marked against them, but they still have one to go. This is with C Coast Artillery. Looks like there's liable to be another of these three way ties.

A new coating is sprayed on finished steel, dries in 30 minutes, resists abrasion, moisture and salt air. It is removed with petroleum solvents.

BATTALION Sports

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1940 PAGE 3

Bill Cunningham, Sports Columnist, To Write Of Aggie Land In Magazine

Bill Cunningham, one of the most famous sports writers in the business, was at A. & M. last Saturday to look over the college and its campus for the purpose of writing a story about the college in the broad open spaces for a national magazine.

He is one of the greatest sports writers of all times and his typewriter brings him in a mere \$52,000 a year from various sources. Bill is a feature writer for the Boston Post, a paper he has been connected with since leaving the Dallas News many years ago.

Bill left the Dallas News, where he was making \$55 a week, to go to Boston because his wife decided she would like to live there. He contacted the Boston Post and asked for \$50 a week and they told him to come ahead. His first check was for \$75 and when he told the paper they had made a mistake, they told him to write his

New Orleans "The City That Care Forgot", Says Scribe

Here is a commentary on the city of New Orleans, home of the Sugar Bowl, by Bill Cunningham, ace reporter of the Boston Post:

There are those who undoubtedly would call New Orleans a wild and wicked city, comparable to Sodom, Gomorrah or the carnal creations of the degenerate Caesars. There are others who can and do call it one of the most delightful cities certainly on this continent, if not in the entire world. It's a matter of interpretation and the unit of measure is the individual.

"The city, itself, is everything, and it offers everything—the good, the bad, the chaste, the sinful, the beautiful, the drab; the inspiring, the repulsive. If a man wants to make an ape of himself, there are plenty of places and people to help him. If, on the other hand, he wants to enrich his experience and his knowledge in matters cultural, artistic, historical and even religious, unusual advantages are his for the taking, even if he's only a visitor.

"If, as most do, he aspires to a little of both, that can likewise be easily arranged. Some call it the city that care forgot. Others say it's the one American community exemplification of the slogan, 'Live and let live.' Nobody bothers himself with concern about anybody's manners or morals except-

Campus Opinion Supports F.D.R.

Although a good majority of American college students continue their approval of Franklin D. Roosevelt as president, campus opinion has not kept pace with the increasing support that the United States voter has been giving the chief executive since the European war broke out.

A coast-to-coast referendum of collegians taken by the Student Opinion Surveys of America shows that more than three out of every five "generally approve of Roosevelt today as president." This is only nine-tenths of one per cent less than the vote of approval students gave F. D. R. a year ago this month, according to the continuous index of his popularity that the Surveys has kept.

Significant are the comparisons that now, after more than a year of measuring student opinion, the Surveys can make with other national polls. It is clearly shown that the moving world and national events of recent months have not influenced student opinion as much as national public opinion, which since the start of the war has far outstripped the collegians in approval of the president. Here is the record:

Poll of U. S. voters: December, 1937, 55.5 per cent approved of F. D. R. Now 64.9 per cent approve.

Poll of U. S. Students: December, 1938, 62.8 per cent approved of F. D. R.

Aggie Swimmers To Leave January 16 For Ten Day Trip

Coach Art Adamson and his Aggie swimmers will leave on a ten day trip February 16 to the North section of the United States.

The ten days will be ten of hard work with the team meeting keen competition on the way up and also on the return route.

On the 17th the Aggies will swim against Oklahoma University. After a brief stay in the Sooner State, the squad travels on to St. Louis, Missouri, where the water polo team plays the Merrimac Patrol on Monday, the 19th.

The next three days will be hard and gruelling exercise for the party. On Tuesday the swimming team swims against the Illinois University team and the water polo team meets the University's co-champions. The teams of Ohio State and Illinois U. tied for the '39 title in the Big Ten Conference last year. These two meets will be held at Urbana, Illinois.

Wednesday is the day set for the match with the Illinois Athletic Club at Chicago. This club is the Senior National Water Polo Champion.

Washington's birthday, Thursday, the Aggies meet the Iowa State tankers in a swimming meet and a water polo game to furnish the holiday sports feature.

After a day of rest and on the journey back, they meet the Sooner Aggies in a swimming meet that promises to be one of the best of the series.

MEN NAMED TO A. V. M. A. POSTS

NEW YORK.—A Houston man and two College Station men have been named to important posts in the organization of the American Veterinary Medical Association for 1939-1940. Dr. Cassius Way of New York City, president of the A. V. M. A., has announced.

They are Dr. J. Gilbert Horning, 3611 Willia Street, Houston; and Drs. Horatio L. Van Volkenberg and P. W. Burns, both of the Texas A. & M. School of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Van Volkenberg has been appointed a member of the Association's special committee on parasitology.

Dr. Burns has been selected a member of the sub-committee on veterinary items of the National Formulary Committee for the A. V. M. A.

The men named today by Dr. Way totaled 228 veterinarians in every state of the Union, in United States territories and in Canada. They will head up the vitally important work of the American Veterinary Medical Association in public health, its widespread research activities, its animal disease prevention program, its program for the improvement of the nation's veterinary educational facilities and its broad legislation and policy activities.

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