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National Champs Feted As Honors Come To Aggieland

Bank Nite

Bowl Champs Claim Trophy

Bowl and Board Officials Preside

Individual Presentations Made to 1939 Champions

By Bob Nisbet
Saturday night's Sugar Bowl victory banquet was "Bank Nite" for fifty-four Texas Aggie football players.

Heroes in the eyes of the cadet corps, they received expensive watches, mammoth trophies, costly leather jackets,—to mention but a few of the innumerable awards. Gold and silver were everywhere in evidence.

Of course the most important trophy of all was the Sugar Bowl that was set on a special pedestal in the center of the banquet room for all to observe.

The first awards were made by Coach Homer Norton immediately following Dr. Law's speech of the evening. Norton first called the names of the boys on the squad who did not letter, then asked and got a hearty round of applause for these boys who did so much work for so little credit.

Thirty-one men on the squad qualified for and received T medals and/or bars, according to their number of letters earned. With the medals went blankets and leather jackets to the following men: Bill "Rock" Audish, Joe Boyd, Roy Bucek, Bill Buchanan, Bill Conatser, "Big Dog" Dawson, Bill Duncan, Henry Hauser, Charles Henke, Marland Jeffry, Jack Kimbrough, John Kimbrough, Derace Moser, Ernie Pannell, Walemon "Cotton" Price, Marion Pugh, Leon Rahn, John "Bubba" Reeves, Ed Robnett, Marshall Robnett, Chip Routt, Martin Ruby, Herb Smith, Marshall Spivey, James Sterling, Jim Thomason, Tommy Vaughn, Euel Wesson, Jo Jo White, Frank Wood, and team manager Jimmy Parker.

Cross-country team members also received their awards at this time. They are captain Mickey Hogan, who got a T jacket and bar; Alec Walker, Gene Wilmeth, and Gus Laney, who got medals.

The next announcement of awards was made by Charlie DeWare, coach of the freshman team, who presented numerals to the following players: Bando, Beard, Boyd, Brewer, Bucek, Drake, Duncan, Ferrell, Knight, Kraras, MacNab, Minnock, Mitchell, Milholland, Pickett, Rankin, Sharp, Smith, Swank, Templeton, Thompson, Tullis, Voss, Webster, Wilson, Yarbrough, Zapalac, and Zimick.

Willie Zapalac from Bellville was chosen captain of the freshman team, to receive for this honor a gift from the Aggieland Pharmacy of a pen and pencil set.

Joe Utay, chairman of the Athletic Committee on the Board of Directors, stating that he, himself, had once made application in vain, to the All-American committee, presented two beautiful life-sized silver footballs mounted on mahogany bases, with engraved silver plaques in front, to the team's two All-American players, Joe Boyd and John Kimbrough. In presenting the awards, Mr. Utay stated that the two boys had lived up to all the requirements set for All-Americans, and hoped they would continue to be All-Americans in later life. With the trophies, the award carried with it two free passes to each man for all future athletic contests held at A. & M.

It was at this time that John Kimbrough announced he had a gift to make. He then brought forth the football that was used in the Sugar Bowl game in New Orleans, inscribed with the names

"TROPHY DAY" CLIMAXES AGGIES' MOST TRIUMPHANT SEASON

Program At Guion Hall

850 Attend Victory Banquet For Aggies

The great Aggie football team of 1939, undefeated, untied, and number one in the nation, hit the jackpot again Saturday night at the largest football banquet ever held at A. & M. honoring a team. Gifts, awards, and praises were heaped upon an appreciative group of boys whose smiles and blushes were many and frequent. Preceding the banquet, Registrar E. J. Howell, acting in the absence of Dean Kyle, chairman of the Athletic Council, officially received the Sugar Bowl trophy from members of the New Orleans Mid-Winter Sports Association.

Setting off the fireworks at 5 p. m. in Guion Hall, Col. Ike Ashburn following "Wildcat" and "Goodbye to Texas" by Aggie Band, introduced over the Texas Quality Network to the state of Texas, Herbert Benson, president of the New Orleans committee, who spoke for a few minutes on the benefits of the present post-season game set-up in the nation. In his speech, Mr. Benson stated that he was most impressed with the great spirit shown by the corps. Then he turned to Registrar Howell and presented him the famous trophy to take in the name of the college and keep until another team is declared the Sugar Bowl Champion.

The Sugar Bowl trophy, a huge silver loving cup made in England in the year 1830, lined with gold and engraved "Texas A. & M. 14, Tulane 13", will be placed in the glass trophy case in the Academic Building to rest there until next New Year's Day when a duplicate will take its place to remain in A. & M.'s possession forever.

Regret was expressed by President Benson that the Sugar Bowl Association's vice-president and successor, Abe Goldberg, and also Warren Miller, past-president and founder, could not attend the ceremonies. However the following members of the committee did attend: Hap Reilly, publicity chairman; Fred Digby of the New Orleans Item-Tribune; Clarence Strauss, secretary of the committee; and Joseph David, treasurer.

Col. Ike Ashburn, at his best in jokes and wise-cracking, opened the banquet with the welcome words "Everyone please be seated." Then a larger-than-expected crowd of more than 800 football enthusiasts sat down to a feast of broiled tenderloin steak, French-fried potatoes, string beans and hot rolls, followed by a dish of ice cream covered with fresh strawberries. While the eating was in progress the Aggieland Orchestra provided a musical menu of popular pieces including among the numbers their own interpretation of "Goodbye to Texas" and the increasingly popular "I'd Rather Be A Texas Aggie."

The program was opened with a telegraphed message from Dr. Walton in New York where he is attending a meeting of the Association of Land Grant Colleges; another from Bill Stern, NBC radio announcer and sports commentator; and another from President Munroe of the Southern Pacific Railway, all expressing their congratulations to the team and the coaches.

One of the best comments of the banquet was expressed by Colonel Ashburn about the same time explaining the general feeling of the crowd toward the past football season. Shakespeare put the words in his titles. "The past season," Col. Ike said, "was the achievement of our 'Midsummer Night's Dream'; it was 'Much Ado About Something,' and it was certainly 'As We Like It.'"

Further entertainment for the evening was provided by the Aggie Glee Club, introduced as "The A. & M. Men's Chorus." They gave three numbers, "God Bless



Above are shown the highlights of last weekend at Aggieland, as a group of leading officials of the New Orleans Mid-Winter Sports Association, which holds the annual Sugar Bowl game, visited A. & M. to put in its possession for a year the famed trophy, at the end of which time a duplicate will be given A. & M. for permanent possession.

At the top are shown in the new dorm area the Sugar Bowl officials with a group of prominent seniors who escorted them about the campus and in to dinner at the new dining hall. Herbert A. Benson, president of the association, declared during his visit that the sight of the cadet corps marching in to the mess hall to the music of the great Aggie Band was one of the most impressive sights he had ever beheld.

Inset, left, Registrar E. J. Howell, member of the Athletic Council, holds the newly arrived bowl as Aggie head coach Homer Norton looks on happily. Benson stands at the right.

Inset, right "Big John" Kimbrough presents the original football, inscribed with the names of the entire Aggie squad, to Bert Pfaff, ex-Aggie who presented the two best-blocker awards, during the course of the victory banquet Saturday night.

Center, left, Aggie grid stars at the speakers' table are overwhelmed with delight at master of ceremonies Col. Ike Ashburn's announcement of Jesse Jones' surprise gift of watches for all the lettermen.

Center, E. J. Howell, acting for the Athletic Council, accepts the Sugar Bowl from association president Herbert Benson, before the microphones of the Texas Quality Network in Guion Hall.

Center, right, Big John receives from Houston Press sports editor "Andy" Anderson the Paul B. Willamson All-American trophy.

Below: (1) Joe Boyd dons his new fleecy jacket. (2) Kimbrough receives his All-American silver football from the college, presented by Joe Utay, chairman of the Athletic Committee of the Board of Directors. (3) Boyd, after getting his All-American football, is presented by chairman E. M. Law of the Board, a permanent pass for two to all future A. & M. games. (Both All-Americans received this honor.) (4) Jim Thomason, another Aggie football great named one of the two best blockers, is awarded another of many gifts.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued on page 4)