

Norton Picks Texas, Rice, SMU; A & M Won't Be Last

Intramurals

Since 1924 A&M Intramural Program Has Developed Into Efficient System

By Bob Myers

As long as time itself, competition of physical skill and intelligence has been predominant in the activities of man. Down from the age of the sword and gallant knight to the present era, came the spirit of combat and with it came the ethics of playing according to a fixed set of rules and to a definite program.

It was by this process that Intramural Athletics received their start at A. & M. College. It was the demand of the student body for an organized program of athletics . . . not for men of varsity calibre, but for students who are either not interested or sufficiently proficient for varsity competition.

Beginning of Intramurals
From the first day of organization, back in 1924, the program has received the full cooperation of the student body, thus enabling it to grow with the enrollment and reach the perfection of a well oiled machine that it is today.

Originally the program was designed to provide competition between battalion football teams. The division was so made as to include all players by having both A and B teams. After the season was completed, the championship teams were selected and received recognition for their splendid showings. Often varsity material was and still is uncovered through the medium of Intramural sports.

Change to Organization Competition
Much the same as growing boys find that they are in their clothes too far and seem to be all arms and legs, so did the system of 1924 outgrow its capacity. The battalion system of class A and B teams was no longer adequate for the increased enrollment.

In 1926, W. L. Penberthy, Head of the Physical Education Department, came to Aggieland to take over the Intramural department along with his other duties. With him, he brought a new streamlined system of organization that was put into use and proved so satisfactory that it was retained and still remains in operation.

As the college was already organized along military lines, it was the logical thing to do to organize a program to conform to the existing one. With this in mind, each military organization was designated as a unit and had its individual teams. The department handled all scheduling of games and provided referees. As the demand for year round activity in sports increased, more games were added, until the present program includes sixteen different sports and one that is on a trial run.

Competition is now divided into Freshman, Class B, and Upperclassmen, Class A, programs, each with the same sports, with the exception of rifle shooting which is limited to upperclassmen.

Sports offered are basketball, tennis, rifle shooting, handball, cross country, touch football, water polo, speedball, volleyball, horse-shoe pitching, wrestling, boxing, softball, swimming, ping pong, track, and golf, which is in the trial stages.

System of Scoring

A point system is used in scoring. The number of points received is determined by the placing of the particular organization in the final play-offs of each sports participated in and the number of sports entered.

Awards

To each member of each team winning a championship in a sport is presented an intramural medal, properly inscribed and the organization winning the school championship has the honor of carrying the Intramural Flag, or flags if both A and B championships are won, at all reviews during the following year. The flags are much sought after and each outfit does its best to be on top of the heap at the close of the year. So keen is the competition that it is practically impossible for both the freshmen and upperclassmen of the same company, battery, or troop to carry off the flags the same year.

Managerial System

In order to run such an enormous athletic plant efficiently, there must necessarily be an administrative department. This is handled through a departmental staff of managers and a staff of organization managers. Under the direct supervision of Mr. Penberthy, the three senior managers of the department handle all games with the assistance of the junior and sophomore departmental managers.

The organization managers play an important part in maintaining this smooth running machine by keeping up with the schedules of games and having their teams on hand at the proper time to participate in them. Each organization manager is assisted in his duties by a freshman manager who performs all administrative work necessary in the Class B program.

Key man in the plant is Dewey Hoke. He makes out all schedules of games and upon his shoulders fall the responsibility of meeting all possible games played within the time allowed.

Another man in the department who is frequently seen rushing from playing field to playing field is "Spike" White. The title of "Field Agent" would be appropriate in describing Spike, for it is he who keeps things moving on the field of play.

Billy, the Kid



Jitterbug Henderson Is First Four-Letterman in A&M History

There have been many great Aggie athletes through the long and brilliant career of A. & M.'s entry into the sports of the Southwest conference, but there has never been a four-letter man until Bill "Jitterbug" Henderson of Houston draped his long lanky frame in the battle colors of Aggieland.

Coming to A. & M. in the fall of 1938 as a basketball player, Henderson tried track and baseball after a successful cage season, and won a freshman numeral in each sport. Not satisfied with three sports, he reported for football also during his sophomore year. During that year, he learned the fundamentals of all four varsity sports, and he won a varsity letter in basketball.

Back again this year, the "Jitterbug" proceeded to set the South-

west Conference on fire with beautiful end play on the football team for a varsity letter. He gained a spot as basketball's most outstanding in points scored, and decided to come out for track and baseball this spring. He has already done enough in track for a letter, and is in line for a letter in the diamond sport.

Bill doesn't mind a lot of work, and in between practice for his major sports, fought his way to the A. & M. heavyweight boxing crown. He also gets in a few games of fast volley ball in intramural competition for his battery. He was elected captain of the basketball team for 1942 and his versatility and ability are gaining him the distinction of being the "nation's 1941 college athlete of the year."

Seven All-Conference Stars and Two All-Americans Are Too Many Replacements For Conference Threat Next Fall

Norton Looks Over Football Prospects For Fall in Interview

After the Texas Aggies rolled over their 1939 and 1940 football schedules with nothing less than a resounding blast that brought them two Southwest Conference championships, a Sugar Bowl bid and victory, a Cotton Bowl bid and victory, and last but not least, a national championship, they graduated everybody on the team, including the team manager.

Now, with 1941 staring Coach

Homer Norton in the eye with a deadly glare, he has decided to let the sports world know that those nine pairs of shoes that must be filled are to be underneath some athletes who are destined to do justice by the maroon and white.

All that was left of the main string after the Cotton Bowl game last New Year's day was all-conference end Jim Sterling and half-back Derace Moser. It is a difficult task to rebuild a club that consisted of seven all-conference men, and two All-Americans. Norton stated at the end of spring practice,

Next Year's Ten-Game Schedule Will Have No Soft Spots Says Norton

"Things looked pretty black when we had to start from the bottom to rebuild but since we have been at work 30 days, I believe I will be able to find some boys to fill those shoes. Several of our other lettermen have looked good and I was impressed by the work turned out by some of these freshmen. One or two of them may break into the starting lineup next fall al-

(Continued on page 11)

Our National Defense depends to a large extent on the youth of America. These young men must be trained in industrial as well as military fields. They are being trained, and the Government is spending millions of dollars for this program. The institution of American Life Insurance is doing a great part in helping to furnish the money for these expenditures.

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