

With Mike Haikin

Great Spirit and Determination Noticeable In Cadet Squad; Moser and Webster Shine

It is amazing what hustle and determination will do for a team or a person, but that is just exactly what has happened to the 1941 edition of Coach Homer Norton's Texas Aggie football squad. Going into the eleventh day of practice, the cadets have been improving by leaps and bounds, and even the coaching staff is beginning to show signs of satisfaction.

Supporting the recent surge of optimism on the campus is the work of Derace Moser and Jake Webster, stellar backs, who are counted on being the main spark-plugs in Homer Norton's gridiron machine. Moser's kicking was a grand sight to observe as the fleet-

footed triple threat halfback booted a wet-soaked ball an average of 50 yards with each kick. That combined with his accurate flinging and line-ramming easily made him the outstanding back of the past few days.

Much the same can be said about Webster. Jake along with Euel Wesson, did most of the kicking off when Coach Norton drilled the boys on kickoffs and returns, with his boots averaging around 45 to 50 yards. Too, his line plunging was more than satisfactory to the coaches, and many of the sideline fans tended to forget "Big John" Kimbrough when Webster got his hands on the ball.

Weatherman's Forecasts May Jolt a Team Or Two During Season; Rain Thanksgiving

One of the most important factors in any football game is the weather, and it has been the decision of more than one game. This year, a team like Texas University certainly would like to see each weekend bright and clear, but according to the latest forecasts of that unpredictable weatherman, such a hope just isn't in the cards. Here are only a few examples of his forecasts for some of the more important games: October 18 (A.

& M.-T. C. U. game—cool and clear; October 25 (Rice-Texas game)—windy and probable rain; November 1 (Texas-S. M. U.)—RAIN AND COLD; November 8 (S. M. U.-A. & M.)—fair and clear; November 15 (A. & M.-Rice)—rain, after a week of unsettled weather; November 22 (Rice-T.C.U.)—local rains; November 27—(Texas-A. & M.)—DAMP AND CLOUDY WITH PROBABLE SHOWERS.

Recent Surge of Publicity on Layden And Crain May Repeat '38 Lain-Cordill Affair

The recent advance publicity on Jack Crain and Pete Layden brings to mind a story that started in the fall of 1937 and wound up in 1939. Rice Institute, in '37, wasn't supposed even to scratch in the conference race, but came out on top of the heap at season's end, mainly through the efforts of two up and coming gridsters, namely, Ernie (The Great) Lain and Olie Cordill.

This year, another dust will attempt to step the hurdles of the Southwest Conference in fine tyle. It is almost the same story—Layden can be verily compared with Cordill, a reticent and modest football player, who plays the game for the love of it, and Crain combined with Lain, who does most of his playing for the folks in the grandstand. Will history repeat itself? Only time will tell.

BATTALION Sports

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Intramurals

Intramural Department Making Plans For Big Year

By Dub Oxford

Once again school is getting under way and the Intramural department is making plans for a better year. As the cadets finish the gruelling job of registration they will be more than ready for a little relaxation on the intramural playing fields.

Selection of unit intramural managers will be in order as soon as the dust has settled and then a banquet is in store for the men. The banquet will be given sometime next week, so watch this column for the announcement of the dates. Present plans indicate that games will start next week also, and starting the ball rolling will be basketball, tennis, and water polo for class A. Water polo is started early this year so that the boys can enjoy the pool before cool weather starts in earnest. In class B, touch football will lead off, with basketball and swimming bringing up the end.

New Faculty Members

The physical education department will be well staffed this year. Three new faculty members have been employed and they will do their best to see that the Aggies will get the best in intramurals.

The new faculty members are Nicky Ponthieux, '41, who was

captain of the varsity water polo and swim team. Coming to A. & M. with fourteen years of experience in intramural work is Carl Tishler. Mr. Tishler has been at Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Luke Harrison who was in charge of the summer recreation program this past summer will be the third new member of the P. E. staff. Other members of the P. E. Department are Mr. W. L. Penberthy, department head, better known to the Aggies as "Mr. Penny," "Spike" White and Dewey Hoke.

Credit Given For Intramural Participation

As has been the custom in the past, freshmen may participate in an intramural program instead of attending regular physical education class. Of course, credit in intramural is given only for satisfactory participation. During the months in which the weather is very inclement and typically College Station, all freshmen will meet for regular classes instead of the regular program. Of interest to all Aggies is the booklet which is distributed to all P. E. classes and to intramural managers. This is the Physical Education Program of Texas A. & M. College and it will be to all students benefit to read it.

Cathright Hall was the first building erected at A. & M. and the spot where it stood is now marked with a commemorative plaque.



Oxford

Coach Norton Greatly Impressed With The Spirit, Hustle, and Condition of Team

With the first test of the season only two weeks' away, the Texas Aggies continued their heavy drills throughout the past week in a two-a-day schedule. However, that particular schedule will end abruptly this week, and the Ags will resort to practicing once a day Monday.

Coach Norton Impressed

As for the practice session itself, the cadets have been working overtime to perfect their plays, blocking, tackling, kicking and passing. According to Coach Homer Norton, the boys have been going great guns, and should be ready for real action when the first game comes.

"I'm certainly impressed by the boys' spirit and hustle and their excellent condition," remarked Coach Norton. Their passing and running has been well above par, and I'm quite satisfied with the kicking.

Guards and Centers

The same situation that confronted the coaching staff at the start of the fall training session still exists. That is the center post and the guards.

"At the moment Dub Sibley looks like the man for the pivot spot," added Coach Norton, "but, then

again, Slats Holder and A. J. Mercer are still around."

The guard positions, at this time, look like a tough proposition for the coaching staff to solve. Ray Mulhollan, who is groomed for the guard spot, has lost some 15 pounds due to an appendicitis operation this summer. It will take him at least a month before he finally hits top form. Roy Bucek has been the other guard alternating with Mulhollan, and unless an unexpected injury pops up on him, he should see much service during the year. At the other post, it's been Les Richardson all the way so far, but alternating with him have been Weldon Maples, Felix Bucek, and Charlie Miller.

Backs Look Good

The backfield combination of Moser, Spivey, Zapalac, and Webster, is just about certain to start against Sam Houston State Teachers College September 27. Both Moser and Webster have been attracting many fans with their great exhibition of running. Combined with Moser's shifty running has been his great passing and kicking. Coach Norton added block-

ing to Spivey's duties and the Lufkin swivel hipped back has been mowing down would-be tacklers with the precision of a veteran.

Alternating with the above quartet have been such stellar running backs as Leo Daniels, Andy Andricks, Tom Pickett, Dick Skarke, and Cullen Rogers. These gridsters have been giving the first team much heated competition, and are running only a short step behind. Daniels and Andricks have been, especially, looking great, and, it may not be long before these boys will be in the lineup.

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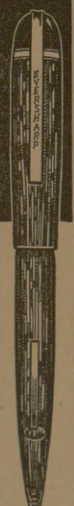
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