

BATTALION Sports

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1942

PAGE 3



By Mike Halkin
Battalion Sports Editor

Aggie Infield Combination Has Great Record in Southwest Conference Competition

Have you ever wondered what was one of the most important contributing factors in a college baseball team, or for that matter of fact—any kind of a baseball team?

The first reaction of any diamond fan would naturally be to say hitting, and he wouldn't be far off. A hitting ball club will certainly win plenty of games, whether or not they have pitching or fielding. But when this particular ball club faces an exceptional pitcher, and the ball game banks on one run or so, they will certainly have to rely on their fielders coming through in fine style thereby saving runs and winning the ole ball game.

What I'm getting at is that a good infield is one of the important cogs on a baseball team—especially of the college variety. Here at A. & M. we have a baseball team which is now leading the Southwest Conference race and one reason is that Coach Lil Dimmitt has an exceptional infield—one of the best fielding combinations that this conference has had in many a year. Saturday, against Rice, the boys really hit their peak by executing six well-timed double plays thus getting Ag pitchers out of depressing situations.

Not only does this help the morale of the pitcher himself but it helps immensely to win ball games, and at times, decides championships. The Aggies probably would

have won the second Rice game anyway, but the game, for a few innings was close enough to go either way, and those double plays helped out.

The combination of Cecil Ballow, Ira Glass, Les Peden, and Sam Porter has been a bright spot in the Aggie showing this year. These four have been instrumental in helping the Cadets get to the top, in fielding as well as in hitting. The fact is that none of the above four is hitting less than .300, and that is an accomplishment in itself. Surprise of the quartet has been Cecil Ballow, not especially in his fielding, but primarily in his hitting. For two years, Ballow flourished around the .200 mark, but this year Cecil is hitting a respectable .322, a rather good mark for a shortstop.

Another of those unheralded players in this league is Ira Glass, whose batting average of .342, has had more than one pitcher on the jittery side. Ira is the other key-stone combination with Ballow, and his fielding work has been equally valuable. Sam Porter, the hard-hitting left-handed first baseman, and Les Peden, the hot-corner artist, have been dangerous sluggers all year, with the latter having three home-runs to his credit.

The Aggie infield, coupled with that heavy hitting, has been an ace in the hole in Aggie strategy. If pitching and hitting is not enough to win a conference, then the fielding will certainly decide it.

Sports Squibs From Here and There; Billiard Expert To Give Exhibition at Y.M.C.A. Today

Charlie Peterson, world's fancy shot billiard champion will be at the Y.M.C.A. today to give two

performances to the Aggie pool and billiard sharks... if you want to see something remarkable just drop over to the Y and watch Mr. Peterson give you his cue wizardry... The exhibition will be devoted wholly to billiard fundamentals... as a climax to the show, Mr. Peterson will wind up with a variety of his fancy shots... Incidentally, he started his annual tours of colleges way back in 1931, and has been ever popular with his fans... he recently appeared in a Pete Smith short, showing the billiard or even pool-minded public the best of his abilities... The Aggie coaching staff of Homer Norton, Dough Rollins, and Lil Dimmitt all took time off their regular chores to register with the other young folks yesterday... Looks like Uncle Sam is feeling out our coaching staff, and may have to incorporate their services before long... If you thought it was really fun to see Coach Emmett Brunson of Rice squirm every time he thought how close he got to getting Albert Ricks to the institute, then what do you think about Coach Dough Rollins' predicament when he let Freddy Wolcott, one of the greatest hurdlers ever known in the Southwest Conference, slip right through his fingers... Wolcott came here in 1937 attempting to get a scholarship but the A. & M. athletic heads said no soap...



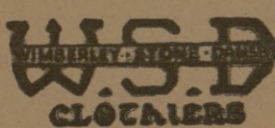
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SWC Race Settles Down to Two Team Affair; Ags Prep for TCU

Two Game Series With Frogs to Be Played Fri and Sat

The Southwest Conference baseball race appears to have finally settled down to a two team battle between the Texas Aggies and Texas Longhorns, and seems destined to stay that way until the two teams meet in Austin on May 8-9. Each of the two bitter rivals won two games in last week-end's battles, the Aggies taking a pair from the hapless Rice Owls, while the Longhorns annexed a double-header from T.C.U.

The T.C.U. Horned Frogs come to College Station for a two game stand against the loop leading Aggies next Friday and Saturday afternoons. The frogs still retain a mathematical chance to win the conference, but with a record of one win and four losses the chance is probably only a mathematical one. The Aggies and Texas have both lost two games, but the Aggies retain the conference lead on a mathematical percentage by virtue of having played two more games than the Longhorns.

The Aggies and Frogs have met once before this season in Fort Worth, and the Aggies came out on the long end of a 12-6 score. The Frogs have an excellent hitting team, and the fielding is above the average for a college ball club, but the pitching staff is on the weaker side of the slate. Outstanding twirler on the Horned Frog mound staff is "Lefty" Dowell, who will probably be the Frog's starting pitcher in Friday's contest. His opponent is expected to be Charlie Stevenson, ace of the Aggie hurlers.

Fielding Good
The Aggies have been looking considerably better on their fielding in the past few games and have been bringing some pleased smiles to the face of Coach Lil Dimmitt with their display of ball handling. The hitting has continued to be the strong point of the club with the boys swatting the ball for plenty of markers, as the scores of the last few games will attest. The team is taking the two games with the Horned Frogs pretty seriously, for a defeat now would not only knock them out of first place, but would put quite a crimp in their title hopes.

Aggies Sweep Twin Bill From Rice Owls Saturday

Stevenson Wins Seventh In a Row; Cadet Infield Shines in Both Games Sat

A great pitching exhibition by Charlie Stevenson and an equally great performance by the Aggie infield combined together to give the Cadets a double victory over

FIRST GAME			
	Ab	R	H
Rice (9)	4	0	1
Colley, 2b	4	0	1
Palmer, ss	4	0	1
Vogt, p-cf	4	0	1
Leigh, cf-p	3	0	0
Barrow, c	3	0	0
Sheehan, lf	3	0	0
Collura, 3b	2	0	0
Navarro, rf	2	0	0
Pendarvis, lb	3	0	0
TOTALS	29	0	6
A. & M. (11)			
Ballow, ss	6	1	3
Rogers, lf	4	1	3
Glass, 2b	4	2	3
Scoggin, c	3	0	0
Porter, lb	3	0	0
Peden, 3b	4	2	1
Stevenson, p	5	0	1
Daniels, rf	4	2	1
Black, cf	4	2	1
TOTALS	40	11	15
Rice	29	0	6
A. & M.	111	200	42x-11

SECOND GAME			
	Ab	R	H
Rice (2)	1	1	0
Colley, 2b	1	1	0
Palmer, ss	3	1	0
Vogt, cf	3	0	0
Leigh, lb	3	0	0
Barrow, c	3	0	0
Sheehan, lf	3	0	0
Collura, 3b	2	0	0
Navarro, rf	2	0	0
Pendarvis, p	3	0	0
TOTALS	24	2	3
A&M (6)			
Ballow, ss	2	2	0
Rogers, lf	4	1	0
Glass, 2b	2	1	2
Scoggin, c	2	0	0
Porter, lb	3	0	0
Peden, 3b	2	0	0
Carden, p	3	0	0
Daniels, rf	3	0	0
Black, cf	3	0	0
TOTALS	25	6	2
Rice	24	2	3
A&M	201	030	X-6

the Rice Owls, 11-0 and 6-2. Stevenson, in scoring his seventh triumph of the conference season, started the first game, limiting Coach Cecil Grigg's feathered flock from the Bayou City six hits. Four double plays by the Ag-

Cadets Annex One First and Then Tie For Other at Drake

Pete Watkins And Albert Ricks Tie For First in Highjump at 6.4

The Texas Aggie tracksters came away from the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa with one first place and a two-man tie for another top spot to add to their already heaping glories.

The Cadet 480-yard shuttle high hurdle team took the top place in that event. The team was made up of Truman Cox, Pete Watkins, Bill Mitchell and Roy Bucek.

The high jump event ended with a five way tie for first place. Pete Watkins and Albert Ricks of the Aggies, Don Boydston of Oklahoma, Milton Kuhn of Iowa and George Poeffinger of Ohio State were tied on top at an altitude of 6 feet 4 inches. The 20-year old mark of 6 feet 6 inches set by Harold Osborne of Illinois in the high jump still stands.

The Rice Institute Owls also gathered two victories to add to the laurels taken by Southwest Conference schools in the Relays. Bill Cummins pulled in one yard ahead of Charles Hlad of Michigan Normal to take the 120-yard high hurdles. Roy Bucek of the Aggies took third place. Bill Christopher, Rice, was the victor in the broad jump event.

Co-eds at the University of Vermont sewed white uniforms for ski troops in the university's ROTC unit.

"Little Conference" Track Meet Will Be Held in Houston Saturday, May 2

The annual triangular track meet between Rice Institute, Texas University, and Texas A. & M. known as the "little conference" meet will be held at Rice Field in Houston next Saturday afternoon, May 2. The meet is expected to be one of the closest battles in Southwest Conference track history, with any one of the three teams liable to cop the crown.

Tradition has it that the winner of the "little conference" meet will be the Southwest Conference champions for that season since

the victor has invariably won the conference meet and the accompanying championship. In 1941 Texas University won the "little conference" meet and went on to take the conference championship.

The Cadets have never won the "little conference" meet, but this year are conceded an excellent chance to come out on top. Earlier this season the Aggies defeated the Longhorns in a dual meet for the first time in a decade. Last week in another dual meet held here the Aggies also defeated the

Rice tracksters by a convincing score.

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