

# A & M Sports Due Another Big Season In 1942-43

## Football Prospects Very Rosy

### Basketball Chances Dim; Baseball and Track Look Better

By Mike Haikin

One of the greatest athletic seasons at A. & M. ended in 1941-42, but, what, ask numerous Aggie fans, lies in store for them during the '42-'43 sport season.

The Aggies won two Southwest Conference crowns, in football and baseball, a second place in track, a sixth in basketball, although having a better playing record than the standings indicated in that sport, a second in golf and swimming, and a host of other laurels in the many Aggie minor sports.

#### Football Aspirations

But getting back to the prospects of '42-'43, let's take football first. The gridiron machine of Homer Norton that has swept like a forest fire in the past three years is again given the drivers' seat in '42 by most grid experts. And there's plenty of basic reasoning behind their statements.

Fifteen returning lettermen, five of whom were starters on the championship '41 eleven, conform the nucleus of Norton's '42 grid team—a team that threatens to break all the so-called jinxes and carry away a fourth consecutive title. Add to the fifteen lettermen, which includes the brilliant swivel-hipped marvel, Leo Daniels, the host of prospects from the freshman team and a number of promising up-and-coming squadmen, and Norton and the many Aggie patrons have another making of a powerful gridiron machine.

#### Cage Prospects Gloomy

Jumping from football to basketball, we find a sport that will really be hit hard by graduation and possibly army induction. Also add to that a new coach and the prospects are rather dim for a really good season in '42-'43. Loss of such stalwarts as Captain Bill Henderson, Ray Jarrett, Fred Nabors and possibly a host of others, the cagers will have a big job trying to stay out of the second division. Maybe the freshman crop will uncover something promising, but until then prospects for a good basketball season look anything but rosy.

#### '42 Fish to Help Track

Track comes next and here may lie the first championship Aggie-land has had since the early 30's. Although losing such valuable point makers as Captain Roy Bucek, Jimmy Knight, Albert Ricks, and possibly Emerick Labus, Joe Vadjos, Pete Watkins, captain-elect, Ken Stallings and others, Coach Dough Rollins inherits the greatest freshman team in Aggie history—a team that swept to overwhelming victories in every meet this past year.

All of the boys have passed their work, and, few if any are eligible for the draft. So you can at least be sure that track prospects for the season of '43 are as bright as they were this year.

#### Another Baseball Crown?

Coach Lil Dimmitt's first year as a baseball mentor was a most successful one and the prospect for another great season next year is not at all out of the question. Gone from his fold are such spark-plugs as Charlie Stevenson, John Scoggin, Sam Porter, Bill Henderson, Cecil Ballow and Bill Black. Of those five, only Scoggin, Ballow and Porter were the regulars, with Stevenson and Henderson being the hurlers.

So here's the setup. The outfield is intact with Cullen Rogers, Jimmy Newberry and Leo Daniels all coming back for another try. The infield has only Ira Glass and Les Peden, but Dimmitt's worries in that respect may be over as there is I. D. Smith, a promising young infielder. Smith will probably take short. The biggest worries will be to fill the first baseman's spot vacated by the hard-hitting Sam Porter and the catcher's post left vacant by the departure of Captain John Scoggin. All in all, Coach Lil Dimmitt has a good ground-work in which to build up another championship contending nine.

As for the minor sports, the

## Manning Smith New Cage Mentor

### Replaces Marty Karow; Appointed By Homer Norton

Manning Smith, freshman basketball and football coach and head tennis mentor, has been appointed as head varsity basketball coach in a recent announcement by Homer Norton, head Aggie coach.

Smith replaces the now Navy-bound Marty Karow, who left A. & M. some four weeks ago. This marks the second change that has



Coach Manning Smith

occurred in basketball this year. Hub McQuillan, head cage mentor for a number of years left Aggie-land for T.C.U. being replaced by the likeable Karow. Marty, in his first year, produced an interesting aggregation, which although they lost more than half of their tilts made the game thrilling and exciting.

Coming to A. & M. with Homer Norton in 1934, Smith has been a valuable cog in the coaching plans of the Aggie head coach. He has been the assistant backfield coach having helped produce some of the greatest backs in A. & M.'s history. "Smitty" attended Centenary and while there attained the highest laurels in football, basketball, and a host of minor sports including tennis and swimming. Under Norton at Centenary, Smith was a unanimous All-American half-back in the peak of his career.

While here, Smith has also greatly donated his services in the respect of a scout, giving a very close look to some of the tougher Texas Aggie grid opponents.

prospects are both bright and dark. The tennis team loses almost all of its regulars and will have to start building from the ground up. The same goes for the golfers. Coach Art Adamson loses Bobby Taylor, the sparkplug of the team the past two years, but in losing Taylor, Adamson gains a brilliant prospect in Danny Green, a swimmer who has beaten the Aggie ace on every occasion. Green will, however, participate on the freshman team in the fall. The other sports—rifle firing, pistol, polo, water polo, and fencing—will all come in for their ups and downs, with one losing many regulars and the other remaining intact.

The rifle team will be hard hit by graduation but is expected to be reinforced by a host of promising freshmen. Another great season is expected for the water polo team, which doesn't lose too much material but does gain some valuable prospects from the past (See A. & M. SPORTS, Page 10)

## Bucek Brother Act Broken Up As Roy Leaves for Army Post

By Mike Haikin

A. & M. has had only a few brother acts in athletics, but never have they come to be as prominent as that of the Bucek brothers, who starred in football and track this past year.

Just when this particular act seemed to take realization, Roy, the oldest of the two, finally completed his eligibility leaving only Felix to carry further the name of Bucek.

#### Roy Enrolls in '38

Roy enrolled here in 1938 and Felix followed the following year but it was not until this season that anyone even took notice of a real honest-to-goodness brother act. Roy understudied the great Marshall Robnett at the guard post in football for two years, but his hard work and stamina was not to be denied in September of '41 as the elder Bucek took down honors as the starting Aggie guard.

Felix, meanwhile, was held out of action in '40, and only saw little service at the start of this past year. The Arkansas game, however, was the payoff, and the younger of the Bucek boys became a sensation almost overnight.

#### Remember the Ark Game?

It all started, as previously stated, in the Arkansas game. The Aggies were leading the league and a loss or a tie would put a deep crimp in their title aspirations. The Razorbacks, who were, incidentally, playing before a homecoming crowd at Little Rock, held the pass-minded Cadets to a standstill, and, at times had Homer Norton's eleven on the run. The battle rocked at an even pace through three periods and it looked like the mighty Aggies had finally met their match and were to be held to a scoreless tie.

Then, with the ball in Arkansas' territory, David Jones, ace passer for the Razorbacks, unleashed a passing attack, that almost set the Aggies back on their heels. At the moment, Coach Norton desperate for a pass-protector, sent in Felix Bucek, with orders to pull out of the line and defend against passes. On the first play Arkansas made the dire error of throwing a flat-zone pass in Bucek's territory. Felix flew in grabbing the ball and streaked down the sidelines 58 yards for what, the fans call today, a "\$50,000 touchdown." And that gave the Cadets a hard-earned 7-0 victory.

Roy and Felix Bucek continued their brilliant showing in track. Roy, the captain and ace hurdler of the team, led the Aggies to a surprise second in the conference meet at Dallas this past May. Felix also pulled a surprise in a dual meet with Rice by defeating the Owls' ace discuss man, Jim Deal.

Dough Rollins and Bill James Both boys attribute their success to Dough Rollins, end coach, and "Uncle Bill" James, line coach. "Both have been really swell to me," Roy mused, "they've helped me immensely in everything I ever did and were directly responsible for anything that I may have accomplished."

Dough Rollins and Bill James, the two coaches, returned that compliment long before it was ever made. "I've never, in all my coaching days," exclaimed Dough, "seen any harder working boys than the (See BUCEK, Page 10)

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