

# Disappointments and Joys of 1942 Aggie Sports Year; Rogers Outstanding

By Mike Haikin  
Battalion Sports Editor

The final strains of the 1942 year are slowly but surely coming to a close and Aggies looking back on one of the most hectic years in the annals of sports can both feel proud and heartbroken on the accomplishments of the four major A&M athletic teams — football, baseball, basketball and track.

Endured Disappointments, Joy Starting with a dismal Cotton Bowl performance in which they were trounced to the tune of 29-21 by Alabama to the final day of the football season, December 5, 1942, in which they ended the year with a thrilling 21-0 victory over Rose Bowl-bound Washington State, the Texas Aggies have enjoyed everything from a dire disappointment to the supreme heights of achievement.

Probably outstanding of all of the Aggie athletic teams of 1942 was the 1942 baseball squad which won the Southwest Conference championship for the first time in five years. With the ever-popular Lil Dimmitt at the helm, the diamonders suffered only two losses in a 15-game conference schedule, ending the season in a blaze of

glory by trouncing the hitherto invincible Texas Longhorns in a two-game series right in the Steers' back yard.

Most Thrilling Athletic Event Their victory over Bibb Faulk's colorful Texas nine climaxed a great baseball year for the Ags and brought them a crown for the first time since 1937. That last game with the Longhorns rates as the most thrilling athletic event of the season. The Aggies won the game, 5-4, and no one will ever forget the dramatic eighth and ninth innings in which John Scoggin, one of the athletic greats of the year, took part.

There were two men on base, one down and Pitcher Smokey Carden was getting tired. Dimmitt promptly switched Scoggin from his catcher's post to the mound and what the big diamondeer accomplished in the next 1 and 2/3 innings will probably go down in A&M history. The first man he faced lined to Thirdbaseman Les Peden who made a miraculous catch and he stepped on the sack for a double play. The following inning, Scoggin, who had pitched one inning during the whole year, struck out the next three men to

face him to give the Aggies the championship.

Cagers Score Top Upset Undoubtedly, the name of John Scoggin will live in the Aggie Hall of Fame for a long time. His hitting and generalship played an instrumental part in giving the Aggies their fourth baseball crown. Charlie Stevenson, pitching ace who made such a remarkable comeback after a dismal season his junior year; Cullen Rogers, leading home-run hitter; Sam Porter, Les Peden, Ira Glass, Leo Daniels and Cecil Ballow were some of the other players contributing greatly to the championship drive of the Cadet team.

However, the achievements of the baseball team didn't take anything away from the basketball and track teams who were responsible for some of the biggest upsets of the current year. The cagers, under the crafty Marty Karow, found

the going tough throughout most of the year but, even with the many



Cullen Rogers

defeats suffered by the Cadets, a few bright moments were garnered by the Karowmen. The biggest upset of the year in all sports was the one turned in by the basketballers January 13 when they jolted a hitherto unbeaten Rice five to the tune of 36-34.

Thinly-Clads Contribute The track team, although not garnering any conference crowns, did turn in a couple of splendid performances when they upset Rice and Texas, respectively, in dual meets. The victory over Texas University by the track team was the first one in ten years.

Another outstanding Aggie performance was the one turned in by Coach Art Adamson's swimming team who trounced the Texas Longhorns in a dual meet for the first time in some ten years. However, the Aggie partisans were sort of disappointed when Texas came back to the P. L. Downs, Jr., Nata-

torium to defeat the Aggies for the conference crown.

Baylor Defeat Biggest Disappointment Probably the biggest disappointment and heartbreak of the year came when Baylor University defeated Coach Homer Norton's Maroon and White gridsters, 6-0, in an early-season upset. The Aggies were touted to be 1942 conference champs but the brilliant successes of 1939-40-41 and primarily the lack of tackles and a good line-plunger finally told on the Cadets.

Nine times the powerful Aggies drove within the Bear 20-yard line but on each occasion they were turned back. Baylor received one big break and capitalized on it for a score.

The football season, as a whole, was disappointing to the distant Aggie follower, but to the real close gridiron fan, one can class the 1942 year as not too disappointing. After all, the Aggies had enjoyed supremacy for three consecutive years and even if they did lose the bigger part of their games in 1942, they did give their foe a terrific battle most of the way. Biggest margin of defeat in conference play was six points,

concurring by Baylor and Texas respectively.

Ranking almost par with the thrilling finale of the 1942 baseball race was the splendid 71-yard touchdown jaunt turned in by Sophomore Barney Welch against Texas University Thanksgiving Day. That not only was the first time an Aggie had ever actually crossed the Longhorn goal line, but it also proved to be the standout one play of the football season. Welch's three consecutive touchdown passes in the SMU game also rate quite a mention.

Rogers, No. 1 Athlete Now that we have covered the events of the 1942 Aggie sports year, it would be a fine idea to choose the No. 1 Cadet athlete of the 1942 season. There are three men, who, in my opinion were the standouts. They were Cullen Rogers, all-conference both in baseball and football; John Scoggin, the phenomenal baseball ace; and Bill Henderson, who tied the record for the number of athletic letters and who also was all-conference in football and basketball.

Surely, all of the three Ag athletes accomplished much, but after (See 1942 SPORTS YEAR, Page 4)

## Battalion Sports

Tuesday morning, December 29, 1942

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# Ags Schedule Tilt With Duncan Saturday

## Cagers Enjoy Successful Xmas Tour With 3 Wins

The Texas Aggie cagers, somewhat gladdened by their impressive showing during their Christmas tour, have scheduled a return match with Duncan Field Saturday night in the DeWare Field House at 8 o'clock.

Coach Manning Smith's basketballers took to the hardwood floor at the DeWare Field House for the first time yesterday since departing from their basketball wars following an exceedingly successful Xmas trip in which the Maroon and White shirted cagers accounted for three wins out of the five games played. One of the two losses was suffered to the powerful Corpus Christi basketballers which boasts of such stars as Bob Kinney, Billy Dewell and other Southwestern Conference as well as national greats.

The Aggies spend four of their five days playing San Antonio service teams. They opened Friday, December 18 against Duncan Field. Sparked by Jamie Dawson and Les Peden who accounted for 14 points apiece, Manning Smith's crew slaughtered the flyers to the tune of 60-21.

Following this game, the Ags engaged Randolph Field, a team they had already beaten here. After a tough tussle in which the lead changed back and forth, the Cadets finally won out, 45-31. However, their luck changed the following day for they were upset by another edition of a Randolph Field team, 31-29.

From San Antonio, the Aggies traveled to Fort Sam Houston to engage the 93rd Division Infantry. The Maroon team easily triumphed.

Swinging from Fort Sam Houston to Corpus Christi, the Cadets challenged the strong and powerful cagers of Coach Lt. Jack Gray. It was no match for the collegiates as they went down to the Sailors, 62-31. Corpus had defeated Texas and TCU just before trouncing the Aggies.

Coach Manning Smith indicated that much work is ahead for his charges and that they would do everything to iron out their major kinks before the season opens January 9. Coach Smith plans to schedule at least a couple of more non-conference games before the season starts.

## Art Adamson in Need Of Swimmers; Report To Pool at 5 to 6:45

Art Adamson, Aggie swimming coach, has announced that the Cadet swimming squad is in urgent need of swimmers and divers for the current season. Many of the old members have been lost through graduation, draft, and other reasons. Adamson points out the need of new men on the squad and requests that any Aggie interested in swimming report to him at the pool between 5 and 6:45 p.m. today. If anyone is unable to be there at that time, Adamson asks that they contact him at their earliest convenience.

## Intramural Playoffs To Be Resumed

### Class A Handball Bracket Close To Finish; 8th CHQ Leads

With a lull in the intramural session due to the Christmas holidays, play is expected to be in full swing once again. A number of the sports are now in the playoff stages and the champions will be decided soon.

The Class A handball bracket is found to be the nearest to the finish line. Three quarter-final games are yet to be played before the series enters the final rounds. The 8th Corps Headquarters team is in the semi-final bracket and will play the winner of a match between H Field Artillery and E Field Artillery. Other quarter-final matches to be played are B Coast Artillery vs A Chemical Warfare and E Engineers vs. C Infantry.

Class A tennis has not gone as far as the handball playoffs and most of the teams are in the eighth-final round. The matches to be played in that group are: F Coast Artillery vs. 3rd Headquarters Field Artillery, E Infantry vs. A Infantry, 1st Headquarters Field Artillery vs. American Legion, L Infantry vs. D Engineers, and E Coast Artillery vs. A Quartermasters. A quarter-final match will find C Infantry meeting G Coast

## Williamson Picks Georgia, Tulsa, Georgia Tech and Hardin-Simmons in Bowls Jan 1

By Paul B. Williamson

After more than a year of war-torn conditions and civilian rationing the football public of America goes into a holiday week of great post-season games. All the scheduled regular classics are back home again. This is all part of the same sort of spirit as that displayed by four score thousands of Britishers attending one of their big association football matches almost as German bombers of destruction were flying overhead.

So many teams already have been written this year on Frankie Sinkwich and Company of the Georgia Bulldogs, that there is left little here to add. The Bruins of the University of California at Los Angeles, U. C. L. A. or the Uclans, after a poor early season start flitted forth like Cinderella in the fairy tale and finished their season in an almost fairy-like blaze of glory. This is the first time U. C. L. A. has sent a championship

football team to the Rose Bowl. It's a shame to dampen such a zealous debut and a glamorous story, but the System goes all out for Georgia.

In the Sugar Bowl game the System, however, rides its ratings and selects Tulsa's Golden Hurricanes—with a robust inference that

Probable winner and opponent:
Georgia, 98.6; U.C.L.A., 90.4.
Tulsa, 97.8; Tennessee, 95.2.
Georgia Tech, 96.5; Texas, 94.6.
Alabama, 95.7; Boston College, 93.8.
Hardin-Simmons, 91.2; 2nd Air Force, 89.8.
East, 91.7; West, 88.2.

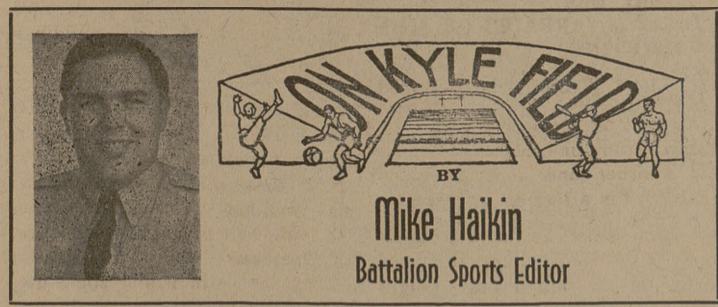
that superb All-American back, Glenn Dobbs, and his fellow Hurricanes will score two touchdowns to every one achieved by the Tennessee Volunteers. It hardly seems possible that the latter's powerful

gridiron aggregation can fail to score perhaps several touchdowns. In fact, on a wet field the Volunteers may mock at rating figures.

Somewhat the same analysis applies to the Rambling Wrecks of Georgia Tech and the Longhorns of Texas at Dallas. Just the same the System takes Tech by at least a touchdown.

In the blithesome set-to at Miami, the power team, Alabama's Red Elephants, have the advantage in rating over the fast and doughty Boston College Eagles. So we pick the Elephants, with befitting regard for our syndicate stablemate, Bill Cunningham.

In the Sun Bowl the System favors the Hardin-Simmons Cowboys over the 2nd Air Force service team from Camp George Wright of Spokane, Washington. The Bombers rated the best service team west of Iowa in the regular 1942 football season. They are studied with ex-collegiate and professional stars. The Cowboys played a more experienced schedule and that should win for them.



Mike Haikin  
Battalion Sports Editor

## Cagers Have First Successful Xmas Tour In Years; Team Continues to Work as a Unit

Well, after a layoff of a week or so, the corner is ready to go back to this lair and deal the sports fans out more misery.

Football is all but a forgotten sport even down at Aggieland with the round ball game, basketball to you, taking things over from the king of American sports.

Incidentally, speaking of basketball, it did my heart good to see Coach Manning Smith's cagers so successful in their annual Christmas tour. They won three out of five from fair-to-middling competition but the fact that they did win many makes one feel pretty good especially since it was the first time in goodness-knows how many years that the Ags have carried such a record following a holiday excursion.

Of course, in the B. G. (Before Gas-rationing) Xmases, the Maroon and White cagers toured the East and Middle-West, playing such teams as Purdue, Ohio State, etc. Each day found the Cadets smarting under a defeat but the experience derived from these tilts proved to be invaluable.

This Christmas, with transportation facilities uncertain, Coach Manning Smith's basketballers engaged a group of service teams instead and probably benefited just as much as they would have touring the East.

It's not the fact that they won or lost games that really counted but it's the fact that the team worked as a unit. That particular characteristic was very noticeable in their initial start some three weeks ago and continued to be a main factor of the team throughout its recent games. It was heart-

warming, indeed, for an ardent Aggie basketball fan, to see a different scoring leader each day by the Aggies played a game. On one occasion, Pete Watkins led the field, on another it was Les Peden and the following day, Jamie Dawson. And then Mike Cokinos added his bit and so forth down the line.

When the conference season does open, Aggie opponents are going to find it very hard to concentrate on one man. Last year, if Bill Henderson was stopped, the whole Aggie team was stopped. But not so this year. This team is reminiscent of last year's fine TCU aggregation which wound up a good third in the league race. They boasted of no star with each of the five men sharing equally in the team's accomplishments.

So it is with Coach Smith's team. Resources are still a decided question mark in the Cadet camp and unless that kink is worked out the Smithmen will find it tough sledding. Five men cannot play continually through a full game. They must have rest and capable men to replace them. That is probably the outstanding weakness of the Aggie five and Coach Smith is sure to work overtime to overcome that disadvantage.

However, despite everything, and if the recent Xmas tour is of any indication, Aggie basketball fans are in for another thrilling and spine-tingling year. Losses are to be expected but not after the hardest battle the foe has experienced in many a moon. The boys have shown plenty of promise and are slated to give the customers many exciting moments!

## Sports Squibs From Here and There; Ed Dusek Slated to be Called to Army Jan 7

A report from Temple says that Ed Dusek, promising sophomore fullback, and Harold Attaway, sophomore tackle, have both passed their draft physical examinations and are scheduled to leave in the January 7 call. . . . Also in that same call is Tom Puckett, former all-state Temple high school ace and a prospective football star here until injuries laid him low. . . . Loss of Dusek and Attaway marks the seventh varsity player that has left school to join a branch of the armed forces. . . . Others include Don Luethy, letterman tackle; Ben Stout, tackle; Johnny Davis, who alternated both at guard

and tackle; Fred Page, guard; and George Wilde, tailback. . . . More are expected to leave school but at present nothing definite is known. . . . Coach Homer Norton, who was one of the coaches of the South team, which triumphed over the North, 24-0 last Saturday, will stay over in Dallas until after the Cotton Bowl game between Texas University and Georgia Tech. . . . Felix Bucek, who, incidentally, played a wonderful game for the South, was seen strutting around the campus showing off his good-looking gray jacket he received for his services. . . . "You know," (See KYLE FIELD, Page 4)

## INTRAMURALS By Mike Mann

After an off-period while the Corps took a much-needed holiday for Christmas, Intramural officials expect to have the sports activity back in full-swing by this afternoon if the weather permits. A number of regular games were played just before the beginning of the holiday season but no playoff matches took place.

A Quartermasters moved into the playoff rounds of Class A tennis as they defeated the Infantry Band by a score of 2-1 in a league final. The Quartermaster team will meet E Coast Artillery in an eighth-final match soon.

Nicky Ponthieux announces that the drawings for the Class A basketball eliminations will take place sometime this week and urges all recreational officers concerned to

be on the lookout for a notice to that effect.

A number of Class A football games were played last week. F Infantry took A Chemical Warfare by a score of 6-0 and the American Legion eleven beat A Engineers and B Replacement Center defeated B Engineers by similar scores. Two other matches saw I Field Artillery wallop A Engineers to the tune of 33-0 and A Field Artillery outplayed I Coast Artillery to win 13-0.

A lone Class B football match between B Field Artillery and L Infantry found the Artillerymen winning with a score of 19-0.

Other Class B scores were:

Ping Pong  
A CAC 2, E RC 1  
F FA 2, E RC 1  
D SC 2, Amer Leg 1  
H FA 3, B CWS 0  
K Inf 2, 2 CHQ 1  
G FA 2, C CWS 1  
E Inf 3, E Eng 0  
A CWS 3, B RC 0  
D FA 3, C SC 0

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