

Hank Avery

Battalion Sports Editor

## Aggie Cagers Face S. M. U. In Next to Final Game Here; Athletes Have Chance After War

The Aggie Cagers will be playing their next to the last game in Deware Field House Monday night, facing the up and coming S. M. U. Mustangs. The Aggies lost to the Ponies last Monday night in Dallas by 51-39. The Cadets have had a week to prep for a comeback.

One fact is a cinch; the Aggies will be tough on their home court and the game will be a close one.

### Air Corps Call

Many empty rooms and lost hopes remain on this campus since the Air Corps started its calling of all the boys in the reserves. The lost hopes has reference to the hopes of the athletic clubs on the campus. But this is not the only campus that felt the calling for. Texas University, Baylor, T. C. U., Rice, S. M. U., and other colleges have lost men that shattered many coaches' dreams for titles in athletics.

I guess now that the teams that were expected to go to town this season in some sports will be crying about the men the army calls to duty. They will probably cry loud and long but they will probably never realize the situation that the coaching staff at Aggie-land was faced with last football season. The staff was handicapped for the lack of time but you never heard the coaches say anything about it after a game had been lost. They just went right ahead and did the best with what they had; not crying over the past.

### Looking Ahead

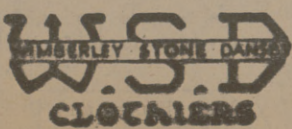
During the last World War, athletes were called just like they are now, and teams lost some good material and experienced men. But after the war, many strong teams came up and this is the reason why: When these boys of today leave, they will lose out in their athletics just like the athletes of a quarter century ago did. If fate sees them through this scrap, they might return and finish the job they left. The conference let the boys return and finish the number of years of eligibility they were entitled to be-



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College and Bryan

# Air Corps Call Hits SWC Schools Hard

## Norton Reports Losses; Texas U Heaviest Loser

Redus, Buntin, McKinnon Lost from Grid Team; Smith, Pennington on Cage Quintet

Southwest Conference athletic teams were today far below their normal strength after the loss of many outstanding athletes to the Army Air Corps. Practically every major team in the majority of Southwest Conference schools was hard hit when the Army Air Corps called up reservists today.

Here at Aggie-land, all sports reported losses to their squads. Hardest hit was the football squad, with Bill Redus, squadman end, Bill Buntin, manager, and Bill McKinnon, numeral guard from Houston being called.

Lynn Smith, likely forward who just became eligible, and Paul Pennington, squadman guard, were lost from the basketball squad. They are both from Houston.

Losses to the baseball team were light, Tom Kamas of Bellville being the only man leaving the squad. Kamas was a promising first baseman expected to be a starter on the Aggie nine.

### Texas

The University of Texas, winners of the 1942 Southwest Conference championship, appeared to be the heaviest losers. The Longhorns were favored to repeat in football next year, and are currently tied for the basketball leadership with Arkansas.

The greatest squad depletion was the football squad, losing eight men. While two basketball players, one track man, six baseball players and a student manager were also called up.

Men called from the grid squad were Co-Capt. Audrey Gill of Sweetwater and Robert Patterson of Texarkana, Arkansas, center; guards Ed Heup of Temple, Duane Coltharp of Austin, backs Travis Raven of Austin, Wayland Hill of Temple, Coy Warren of Cisco and Johnny Petrovich of Alhambra, California.

Former half-mile conference champion Mac Umstadt of Austin and Lewis (Mickey) Mayne, key man of Coach Clyde Littlefield's sprint relay team, were called from the track squad.

Lost to the baseball squad which was to begin training March first were Lyle Green of Grand Forks, North Dakota, Hobbs Williams of Jefferson, Ray Fortune, a pitcher with great promise, from Austin, catcher Jack O'Reagan, infielder George Schwoebel and outfielder Jan Pierce.

Basketball gave up Curtis Popham, starting guard, and freshman Philip George of Austin. Popham will be allowed to play in the Arkansas series. Also called was Beal Dean, Student Manager from Breckenridge.

### Baylor

Up in Waco, Baylor University (See AIR CORPS, page 4)

## Texas Christian Cancels Baseball In SW Conference

Lack of Material Blamed; School Installs New P E Program; Accent on Track

Texas Christian University will not be in the Southwest Conference baseball loop this spring, according to an announcement received Friday. There will be a TCU nine, but it will be for the purpose of playing only local and close-at-hand service teams.

The school has announced a spring sports program for every boy in the school. This will include varsity and intramural sports with emphasis placed on football. Intramural football will be of the touch variety.

Also, the accent will be placed on track and field events. Boys who make good under the college track program will be entered the Southwest Conference and other intercollegiate meets. However, there will be no formal track team.

## Aggie First Sacker Of 34 Now With Red Cross Over Seas

Edward K. (Lefty) Martin, an Aggie athlete and first baseman, who wore the Maroon and White in 1933, has just turned up in Africa. According to official Red Cross sources, Lefty is now in charge of the American Red Cross in Oran, Morocco.

After leaving A. & M., he played professional baseball for Wichita Falls and Galveston in the Texas League, and in 1934 was voted the most valuable first baseman in the league. Martin hails from Palestine.

Believe nothing you "hear", and half you see—let's stop rumors!

Saturday Morning, February 13, 1943

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# Battalion Sports

## Ags Lock Horns With Mustangs Monday Night; Game Starts at 7

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## Tankers Meet TU Here Feb 24; Green to Spark Ags in Battle

By Horace Bays

The Texas Aggies swimming team will meet the strong "Teasippers" here in Aggie-land for the Aggies first conference meet on February 24. The meet will be a hard struggle, but we all have a good idea who will come out on top. The Aggie swimmers will splash it out with T.U. in their own pool on March 6, which should also be quite an event.

The Southwest Conference will meet on March 19-20 at Austin, and possibly there will be an A.A.U. meet on March 13 at Dallas.

So far the team has come through with flying colors, with not too many swimmers lost to the Armed Forces. One of the best swimmers was lost to the air corps, which was none other than Ben Looney, the 50 yard main, who usually came in front of the

rest of the swimmers.

One of the best swimmers on the team is Danny Green, the Southwest 220 and 440 champ. Galf Green is another champ who holds records in the Southwest in the 220 and 440 bracket. He came in third in the National A. A. U. meet last summer at New London, Connecticut in the 880 and 1500 meter event. Demmer was the only swimmer to defeat Green in the 220 last summer in the A.A.U. meet.

Bob Cowling, the Southwest 100 yard individual champ is also on the team; he is also the 100 yard breast stroke champ, and was undefeated in the South through the summer competition.

George Haneey, the state high school backstroke champion, and undefeated last summer in the backstroke competition, should rack up quite a few points.

Jim Kiel, senior and letterman, and captain of the swimmers, should come through in fine style. Shrimp Laphan and Dick Winters are also lettermen who should make a good showing. Although the diving still has some weak spots, it has improved with the help of Bert Cree, R. H. Meiser and R. L. Pulls.

## Aggie Corps Can See Game; Aggies Ready

The Texas Aggies will be striving to get out of the Conference cellar in meeting the S.M.U. Mustangs here in Deware Field House Monday night. The Aggie season record is a very unimpressive one, now standing at two wins as against five losses. A win over the Ponies would give the Ags at least a mathematical chance at a spot near the top of the heap, whereas a loss wouldn't help in the least.

The Mustangs hold an edge over the Aggies by virtue of the 51-39 trouncing they handed them at Dallas last Monday night. However, next Monday night will find the Aggies facing S.M.U. on their home grounds and this is a point in their favor, having lost only to the mighty Texas Longhorns in Deware Field House this season. They beat T.C.U. here in the seasons opener and then bounced back from a Baylor loss in Waco to swamp the Bears in their game here. Incidentally, this game is the next to last game to be played at home, the final to be against Rice here. A win by the Aggies will put the cadets in a tie for fifth place with the Mustangs, a spot now held down by S.M.U. while the Ags have complete possession of the cellar position.

In the first encounter between the two teams, the Aggies turned in a tough battle, giving the Ponies fits the first half, the score being 24 to 23 in favor of S.M.U. at the end of that period. Then in the last half the Ponies rallied and really began to hit the hoop, while the Aggies couldn't hit their stride again.

The game should prove interesting from every standpoint. The Aggies will not have the height on the Ponies but will have the home court in their favor.

Believe nothing you "hear", and half you see—let's stop rumors!

Texas University seems to be a little strong where the Aggies are weak, and if the Aggies expect to win the conference, we will have to have more swimmers to fill in the third and fourth positions. So any good swimmers are needed badly.

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# Sports Wed War as Aggie Athletes Scrap for U S in all Branches of Service

## "Marriage Between Sports And War Is Now On Celluloid"

By Red Smith  
In Philadelphia Record

A year ago there was a vague sort of stigma attached to athletes in the armed forces. Irresponsible flapjaws, both within the sportswriting field and outside, had the appalling impudence to question the motives of many sports stars who entered the service at that time.

It became the fashion to sneer at those who, having had specialized training or experience in athletics, answered the call for physical instructors in the Army or Navy. It was openly hinted that the star pitchers and the boxing champions who signed up were interested chiefly in saving their own skins by landing cushy jobs far from the combat zones.

Well, it seems to me that maybe we get a little bit smarter as time goes on. At any rate, you don't hear cracks like that any more. The country has discovered that once a man joins the Army or Navy he does as he's told. If the brass hats figure he's most valuable as a teacher of calisthenics, he teaches calisthenics 12 hours a day. If they think he can do more good with a gun, he grabs a gun.

Meanwhile, the list of sports stars who have distinguished themselves in action grows ever longer. The examples set by Barney Ross and Indian Joe Rivers, by

Slade Cutter and Billy Southworth, Jr., and hundreds of their kind have taught the world that the best fighter of all is the man who has been tempered in the fire of peacetime competition.

Now, the marriage between sports and war is to be solemnized on celluloid by Universal Pictures. A movie is being made called "We've Never Been Licked." Its locale is the campus of Texas A.&M. It is based on a book by Captain John C. Pasko, of the Coast Artillery, a graduate of A.&M.

Does it surprise you that an inland college devoted to agriculture and mechanics should provide the inspiration for a war picture? Me, too. But I am indebted to Universal's research department for these explanatory facts:

Texas A.&M. has today more officers in the armed forces than any other school in America, not excluding West Point. Although you may never have heard of the joint until John Kimbrough made its football team famous, it has an enrollment of 7,000 and all students receive military training.

Now, I'm quite sure this isn't the largest college that offers R.O.T.C. courses, but it happens to be a point of pride with the students that they all are graduated with reserve commissions.

Texas A.&M. Is Proud Of Its War Record  
A recent check-up showed that

all but one of the football players coached by Homer Norton since he took over at A.&M. in 1934 are in the armed forces. And all but

The one who isn't in the service works for a shipbuilding company, and has not been able to get loose to enlist. The one without a commission is a sergeant in charge of the takeoff and landing of planes at an Army flying field. Recently he was invited to attend officers' training school.

"Hell," he said, "I was a guard in football. I don't expect to get famous. I'll stick to my job."

Does the name Lt. Thomas C. Day seem familiar? He was an all-around athlete at A.&M. He must have been listening when the English professor talked about concise and pithy prose. For he is the author of the four-word volume, "Sighted sub, sank same."

## Intramurars

According to an announcement by W. L. Penberthy, director of Intramural Athletics, action will start next week on Class A Speedball and Class A and B horseshoes.

Schedules are in the process of being prepared now and should be in the hand of the organization recreational officers by Sunday at the very latest. If the schedules are not received by that time, officers should call by the Intramural (See INTRAMURALS, Page 4)

## Yankees Recognize Aggie-land as Major Sports Center

First of 100 or so Aggies to win decorations for gallantry was Lieutenant Colonel "Pelly" Dittman, track captain in 1938 and football understudy to Halfback Dick Todd. He got the Distinguished Flying Cross for conducting a flight of bombers from Hawaii to Corregidor. His plane was destroyed and Dittman was evacuated from The Rock in a PT boat.

John Kimbrough and his brother are first lieutenants in the infantry. So is Joe Routt, twice All-American at guard. So is Jim Thomason, the blocking back who helped Kimbrough shake loose. Marshall Robnett, All-American guard in '41, is taking flight training.

Major General George F. Moore, '08, played tackle for the Aggies. When Corregidor fell, he went down with the bastion he had commanded since leaving his post as commandant at Texas A.&M.

There is at hand a seven-page document composed mostly of names and figures. It adds up to this: On January 1, 1943, there were 7,856 Aggies on active duty and 96 had given their lives. Sixteen are generals.

They weren't all stars and some had no athletic gifts at all. But the great majority did something or other in sports. Which isn't a bad record for our side.

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