



Hank Avery

Battalion Sports Editor

Payoff Punch Tonight; Aggies Tangle With Owls

The Corps, I believe, means a lot down at DeWare Field House when the Aggie cagers play a tilt, and tonight they might mean the difference between victory and defeat.

The Rice Owls are coming to Aggieland trying after a victory that might mean the conference title; or at least half of it will be assured if a win is made.

Last year the Cadets dumped the Owls' apple cart by scoring the biggest upset of the season when they downed the Birds in Houston and put them co-champions of the conference.

The Owls would like nothing better than win out over the Cadets at Aggieland and also to show the Corps that their noisy gym doesn't help to win ball games. But brother, they are wrong.

I know that on paper the influence of the stands doesn't add up, but the games are not played on paper. It's a psychological reason and it will work. This writer would

like to see it work tonight.

After their tenth conference win that will bring them a tie for the conference, the Owls will be the strong favorite. So the spotlight is focussed at Aggieland tonight for the outcome of the conference title.

Also Bill Tom Closs will be trying to break the conference scoring record set by Dwight Parks of Baylor last season. Lee Huffman will be in there running for a place in the scoring race.

With those stands full and no remaining standing room, an Aggie win would not surprise Kyle Field. Men of the Corps, go down and let those Institute boys know that the Corps does mean something. Rice football squad is not going to work out this afternoon for they will be coming up to see the best game of the season.

And probably this will be the best of the season and the last at Aggieland. Go down and see the final game!

Cadet Gridsters Tangle in Inter-Squad Game Today; Training Stops Thursday

Players Show Marked Improvement Over Early Season Form; Game Time Today, 3:30

Again today at 3:30, Kyle Field will see the prospects of the 1943 grid team in action when the Maroon team tangles with the Whites in another inter-squad game.

The boys have been steadily improving their passing game and ball handling, however the team members have yet to come up to season form.

This week the Whites, composed of men not so experienced, trounced the Maroon team, more experienced players,

Comets Have Downed Every SWC Team This Year

Lieut. Jack Gray's Corpus Christi Naval Air station basketball team is one of the greatest teams ever to show its stuff in this part of the country, yet it will have to be content with the title of the uncrowned champion of the Southwest. The Southwest conference teams will agree to giving N. A. S. this title because the Naval Station team has beaten all the conference teams a total of nine times without any losses by scoring a total of 461 points in these games.

The Naval team is also eliminated from gaining any National honors because of a 48 hour leave limitation on athletic teams from the base.

In addition to the victories over the Southwest conference teams the Comets have also rolled over other army air fields for seven victories making a total of 16 straight wins in which they have scored 892 points compared to their opponents 563. This is almost an average of 56 points per game while their opponents have an average of only 38 points per game. The Comets have seven more games scheduled for this year. Among scheduled opponents are two games with the Pensacola Naval Air Station and one game with a professional basketball team.

Baylor Faces Longhorns Tonight; Bears Trim S M U

The Baylor Bears toppled the strong S.M.U. five in a thrilling 40 to 34 upset in Waco Thursday night. This victory for the Bears makes the Southwest conference cage race closer than ever.

The Bears gained their revenge from the Mustangs in Thursday's game after S.M.U. swamped Baylor 71-44 the week before. The Bears stayed in front of the Mustangs throughout the game, although the high point man was Tom Tomlinson of S.M.U. Ivy Miller and Gordon Hollon came in with 10 points to be the leading men for Baylor.

Although this win left the Bears still in the cellar, if they beat Texas Saturday; S.M.U. and Baylor will be in a tie for the cellar position.

Aggie Rifle Team Seeking New Men

Practices Held From Monday Through Friday

Although at present, the Aggie rifle team is in extreme need of members, they are still keeping up with their regular practices from eight in the morning until five in the afternoon every week day. So far the team consists of only fifteen men and Captain Williams, their coach, stated that the bottleneck is in the shortage of reserves. If any Aggie is interested in joining the team, he can report to the Army where firing practice is held.

During the past two or three years, A. & M. has been proud of its crack rifle teams because though they have had very keen competition the Aggies have come out on top in over three-fourths of their matches. J. H. Crossland, W. T. Jones, and W. R. Obenour have distinguished themselves in their practice and as time goes by, this trio shows a great deal of improvement which will develop this group into one of the top-notch shooting aggregations in the country. As their coach said before, the only need now is more boys to help the present leaders improve so they can cope with any competition.

Rough Play By Steer Might Be Reason For Falling From Conference Lead

By Guillermo Moncada, Jr.

When the Texas Cage team went North, they were the leaders of the Southwest Conference but something happened there that might be the cause for their losing. Many scribes around have said the reason for their losing was their roughness.

When the Longhorns played at College Station, I didn't see any of the rough stuff in excess. The Longhorns and Aggies play very rough when they tangle but there wasn't anything like the play that Jinx Tucker of the Waco News-Tribune writes about.

Now Jinx is sorta of partial about his teams and anyone that says Texas University around him better back away. But there is something to his writings that no one can dodge. The facts are there. Here is what he writes:

"The Longhorn team seemingly

had the title in the bag . . . but the tactics of the University of Texas basketball team caused much anger among rival teams. Arkansas was the only one which made its anger public.

"Baylor players were greatly peeved at the methods adopted by the Texas team in its game here, and Edwards had to do a good job at controlling his temper to keep from swinging on a Texas player that had taken jabs at his nose throughout the game. Edwards went out on furls, while the Texas player was not 'caught' in his more serious infractions. In fact, the Texas team, by the manner and methods it used, became the Brooklyn of the Southwest Conference.

"S. M. U. and T. C. U. very good teams when at their peak, 'laid' for Texas. T. C. U. defeated Texas Saturday night in a very close game, putting the pressure on the Longhorns Monday . . . S. M. U. went out and gave Texas a dose of its own medicine. S. M. U. became as rough as Texas had been all season. It was a wild and wooly game and S. M. U. won it.

"If Texas loses the title it apparently had won, it can charge it up to mistakes made in earlier games—mistakes that were not necessary—the mistakes of getting too rough with opponents. The opponents did not like it, and they decided also to get a little rough; and when they did it was very rough on the championship chances of the Longhorns."



An estimate taken at A. & M. shows that out of 2,359 dormitory rooms over 2,100 have radios in them.

New Physical Education Program Really Doing Away With Stiff Backs

By Thomas Boog

Many are the moans and groans heard around the campus lately, and the cause of the sore leg and back muscles are the new and strenuous Physical Education program now being introduced here at Aggieland. The new course is open to one and all; in fact, every man physically fit is required to take the course. So every after-

noon the Intramurals Field is the scene of feverish activity as stiff and ancient Seniors and five-year men bite the dust right alongside the Frogs and Sophomores.

One of the most remarkable things of the whole course is how the instructors, who are much older than their stooges, can stand the gaff while the mighty muscle-bound Aggies pant and groan under the strain of the exercises.

The two-hour course starts out slowly, the instructors making the poor students do only arm and leg exercises for almost an hour. Of course, they give you all a thirty-second rest period about half way through. Then when you think you are just about recuperated, there comes the cry, "Now the next exercise will be as follows," and off you go again to the cry of "One, two, three, four," and so on until the E.D.'s are sprawled about the field in various stages of fatigue. Finally the instructor takes pity on the stooges, and tells them that that's all for the day.

But brother, don't get all het up; he's just kidding. That's just the warming up exercise. The real thing is still to follow. So then when you see all the others of the class taking off toward the road, you know that the cross country is coming up. So every one drags himself off the ground and toddles off after the rest.

First you cross the highway, and then head for the horse barns. You're feeling pretty good and you tell yourself, "this ain't so bad after all," as you speed up to show the stragglers how fast you really are. But by the time you get about half way round the two mile course you begin to realize that those instructors have some trackmen setting the pace. Then your legs begin to get heavy, and all the guys you have just passed breeze by you wide open, and you think maybe you aren't so good after all. Then only a little way ahead of you is the final goal, and pretty soon you stagger up to the starting point, with just enough strength left to drag yourself back to your hole.

And all the time you're thinking how rough the cross country was, but then you think of the commando course that you'll be taking soon, and you realize that what you've had so far is nothing compared to what lies ahead of you. But what makes you forget all this is when you think of all the guys now fighting all over the world who are thanking their lucky stars for having had such courses, to prepare themselves for the ordeals that they met successfully. So, after all, even though P.E. is rough, wouldn't you rather be in condition when you come face to face with that Jap or German?

Jap Pay-Off

How a "pay-off" of 50,000 yen was made by the Japanese government to the Nipponese "underworld" in the early part of the century to prevent altercations with American visitors that might have led to war then was related recently by Albert Bushnell Hart, professor emeritus of history at Harvard.

"I got the story from an attaché of the American embassy in Japan soon after the incident occurred, and I don't believe it ever has been told," said the 88-year-old, white-haired professor.

"I was in Japan at the time the 'good-will fleet' sponsored by President Theodore Roosevelt stopped at Yokohama.

"Shortly before the fleet landed, a representative of the undercrust of Japan—the underworld gang—went to officials of the government and said in substance: 'There will be hundreds of Americans coming off those ships and circulating about in this area. What's it worth

to keep us from starting trouble?' "My information was that the Japanese officials said it was worth 50,000 yen to them to prevent any outbreaks that might possibly lead to an 'incident' with the United States . . . They weren't ready then.

"The 50,000 yen was paid over to the gang leader, and there was no trouble when the fleet landed.

"Subsequently, I went to the American embassy and asked someone there if the story I had heard was sound, and he informed me there was 'something to it.'"

"It was mighty cheap for the Japanese government to get off that way," said Hart. "And it's not impossible the gang which was 'paid-off' had something to do with events that led up to Pearl Harbor."

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INTRAMURALS

By John Stout

Softball is just around the corner, and that corner isn't very far away either for the opening date is Monday. It will all begin at 4:00 on the old drill field in the old area and only class A will be represented because of scheduling difficulties and the difficulty of an organization having more than one team out in the same evening. There will be the same number of games played by the Class A contenders as were played last year by both classes. Each team will play 10 games within its league and of course the winners of each league will continue playing until it is eliminated.

There is still some misunderstanding about making up intramural games in the evening for those who cannot make their weekly required game. Makeup periods will be at 4:00 and 4:45 every evening of the week, Monday through Friday. The periods will consist of swimming, basketball, volleyball, another similar sports. You may even run the cross country if you

wish. Each period will be 45 minutes in length and those who wish to make up intramural games are to meet on the south end of Downs Natatorium at either 4:00 or 4:45.

Speedball will begin to be a part of the P. E. classes in the very near future just as soon as the P. E. department can get enough speedballs. In order to develop more interest in speedball and to give the boys an opportunity to hear the rules and regulations from somebody that really knows how to play it, the P.E. department had Mr. Penberthy, the department head, to explain all of the rules and regulations.

It has been rumored that somebody has finally beat nine minutes in running the cross country course. Everybody that boasts of having a low score can make an account of himself when the times are recorded and posted. These will start next week sometime if possible arrangements can be made.

Thursday afternoon if you were down on the speedball fields and saw the game between 4th CHQ and MG Cav. you will get a very good conception of how speedball should be played. G. Moncada, Jr. Intramural Manager for 4th CHQ has gathered from the 4th CHQ many expert Soccer players from Latin America who are students here at A. & M. In the game the 4th CHQ attack, led by Caro and Delatorre, was constantly hitting the forward wall of the MG Cav that the Cav were forced under the shadows of their own goal practically the whole game. The Cav did break through twice though and once they scored their only touchdown which netted them their only 2 points of the game. The Latin American boys, using nothing but Soccer combinations could carry the ball within the five yard line before the strong defense of the Cav. stopped them. The Corps Headquarters boys then changed their tactics to the air and scored their two touchdowns netting them the winning score 4-2.

Lets get those softball teams organized before we go down to the diamonds and have some real games this year.

Sociology Majors Take First Two Places in Contest

Two A. & M. Rural Sociology majors received the first and second places in the recent State Public Welfare examination given by the State Department of Public Welfare in twenty-one examination centers in the state of Texas.

R. F. Mitchell, a graduate student in the Rural Sociology Department, made the highest grade in the state, and J. L. Robertson made the second highest grade.

Of the nine men called for interviews for immediate placement in the State Department, three came from the College Station examination center.

The first Aggie yearbook, the Oleo, was published in 1898.

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