rts Summary Shows Mediocre Year For Aggies

Record Remarkable, Considering Inexperience Of A. & M. Athletes

like to pay tribute to the coaches and ave worked so hard land to keep among es and universities t 1944-45 wartime

The college athlete has these last three h younger, inex- The war speed- brought to Texas s of young ath- that the coaching big task of de- ge material these etes. It is these made Aggie and last, now en to g is n the g man make world

Organized in O otball- y suc- and rities of local ders otal of 289 points to nts 94 in their all- showed class in their st the Bryan Air although they were slight opposition. rmen by a score of oon and White was t that looked more

on their victory road, ook the Red Raiders ch to the tune of 27- this game however, jury jinx began with "Butch" Butchofsky breaking his jaw in the first quarter of the game. Cotton Howell, ace pass catcher received a cut right eye which handicapped him in the games that followed.

Suffering their first loss of the season, Coach Homer Norton's fighting gridmen took the small end of the 21-7 tussle with the OU Sooners at Norman, Oklahoma. No additional injuries were suffered, however, and the Farmers lived up to the traditions set for them by past Aggie teams—that tradition of never giving up.

Paul Yates came through in a clinch when he made the lone touchdown of the game as the Aggies took the LSU Tigers by a 7-0 victory. No additional injuries were suffered by the Maroon and White in this battle at Baton Rouge, La. The Aggies showed better teamwork and line play than had been witnessed all season in this tilt.

Coming home to Kyle Field, the Ags sloppy play gave the TCU Horned Frogs a 13-7 victory in this conference upset. Seven A. & M. fumbles were recovered by the Frogs of the nine for which the Aggie backfielders were responsible.

Next on the schedule of the three game series on Kyle Field were the Junior Aggies. Smothering NTAC with a barrage of touchdowns, the Aggies took the little Farmers for a 61-0 victory. The Maroon and White fattened their offensive averages as they avenged the 1943 AGGIE-NTAC tie.

In the last home game of the 1944 season, the Aggies fumbled the Arkansas Razorbacks to a 7-6 victory. The cadets made seven miscues in the juggling contest breaking the string of Aggie victories over Arkansas which had run for six straight years. Leading in everything except the score, the Aggies outplayed the Porkers throughout the entire tilt.

Inspired by a corps of 200 Aggies in the SMU stadium, the Aggies finally came to life as they slaughtered the Mustangs 39-6. For the first time in several weeks, the cadet backfield held the ball and the entire team turned in a good performance.

Playing great football all of the way, the Aggies plucked the feathers of the Rice Owls and coasted to their second conference win of the season as the entire corps went to Houston for a rousing weekend climaxed by the 19-6 defeat of the Owls. The game was played in the rain and cold; nevertheless the Maroon and White managed to hang onto that ball allowing only two miscues, neither of which were recovered by the Owls.

Next, seeking to break a 22-year jinx, the Aggies suffered another heartbreaking defeat from the Texas Longhorns in historical Memorial Stadium on turkey day—the teahounds taking the game by a lone touchdown, 6-0. Silver Taps was played for the 5th straight year of Thanksgiving as Texas scored in the first minutes of play.

Closing their 1944 season in Miami, the Aggies defeated Miami U. 70-14. A hat should be tipped to the Aggie Football coaches — Norton, James, Smith, and Dimmitt—for their work with these boys was nothing short of remarkable. They made a wonderful team out of only a few returning lettermen.

The past basketball season here at A. & M. can be summed up in three words—an unsuccessful season. The Aggies went through the entire season with but three wins. Taking the Baylor Bears twice and Bergstrom Field once the Maroon and White basketeers won only these games. The Ags did manage more than the lower berth in Southwest Conference competition as the Baylor Bears dwelled in the cellar all season.

The cadets were handicapped all season by a lack of height and experience. The ending of the semester saw Milton Cherno and Cotton Howell, both first stringers, leave further hindering the Farmer's strength.

Sparking the season for the Aggies as individuals were Charlie Weinbaum and Bill McCormick—the only two men to play in the entire 24 games of the season. Weinbaum racked up a total of 150 points as compared to McCormick's 138.

The close of the season saw Manning Smith leave for the Merchant Marines. Resigning from the coaching staff on March 1, Manning left immediately for induction in the Merchant Marines, and is now at St. Petersberg, Fla.

From Basketball, the sportlight turned to swimming. Here again is another example of what a chance it is for young men to play a part in the sports world. When Coach Art Adamson issued a call for swimmers, he asked not for experts, but for boys who were willing to work hard to better themselves and better the swimming team—and that is just what happened. Returning men were Facio, Escobar, and Syfan.

The Aggies faced the Longhorns in the first dual meet of the season in Austin and took the meet by an 84-72 win. Next on the Farmer's list was the dual meet between the Aggies and the YMCA team of Dallas. The Aggies took an overwhelming victory from the Dallas boys.

Not coming up to standard from in the dual meet with Texas here, the Farmers dropped the meet to the Longhorns by a 56-37 loss. Facio had no trouble taking first in the diving department, while Self and Syfan did their part by taking first in the 100-yard free style and 440-yard free style events.

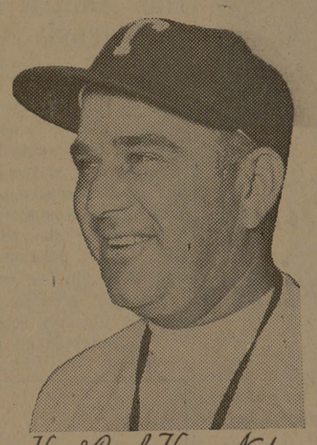
Climaxing the season was the astonishing Aggie win over the Longhorns in the Southwest Conference meet held in Austin in the Gregory Gym Pool. The Aggies led the Longhorns by a good margin throughout the entire meet and were ahead when the last event came up. As the Maroon and White finished first in the 440-medley relay they climbed into a 84-80 win over the Texas surface trimmers. For the first time in 13 years the Aggies had taken the swim title from the Longhorns. The 1944 season found the Aggies tying the Texas boys whereas before that the Maroon and White had suffered 11 straight losses to the Longhorns in Southwest Conference competition.

Needless to say, Art Adamson has performed the miracle that he and his swimmers heretofore have dreamed of accomplishing someday. We all take our hats off to the greatest swimming coach that the Southwest has ever known—Art Adamson.

The Aggies have long been known for their track teams, and this year was no exception. Even though the 1945 cinder team did not come up to the par that the 1944 team set, they did manage to place first in two of the nine meets in which they participated

(See SPORTS, Page 6)

Coach Norton Says . . .

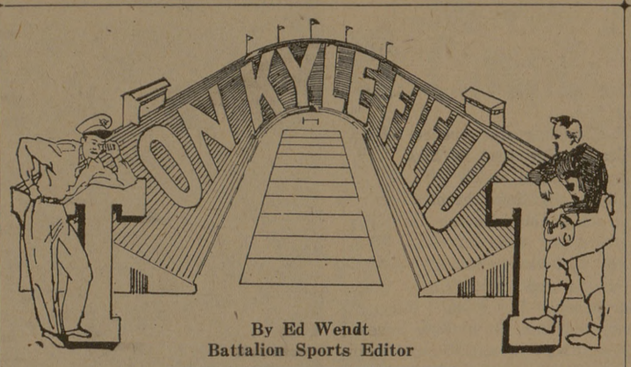


Head Coach Homer Norton

I am happy to extend to the graduates of our fine Texas High Schools the greetings and best wishes of the athletic department of Texas A. & M. The enviable record achieved by men of A. & M. in the realm of competitive inter-collegiate sports is due largely to the splendid devotion of the entire Corps of Cadets for their Alma Mater. A. & M. has that indefinable somthing called "school spirit", and it is that spirit that you would soon learn to feel.

The coaching staff at Texas A. & M. has a great interest in every student enrolled here and regardless of your ability as an athlete, the coaching staff of Texas A. & M. urges you to pay us a visit. As a cadet you will find great joy in belonging to the Aggies famous "twelfth man", a factor that has contributed to many of our victories.

Homer H. Norton,
Head Coach and Director of
Athletic Department



By Ed Wendt
Battalion Sports Editor

ADEQUATE SPORTS FACILITIES FOR A. & M. STUDENTS

A sports and physical education program capable of handling seven thousand men before the war called for the building of the many expansive, modern athletic facilities for the convenience of students. Students at A. & M. have always had access to the many sports facilities and have always felt free to use them at their convenience.

Just to get a general idea of what we have to offer here the following summary might be self explanatory:

Eighteen basketball (outdoor) courts plus the indoor court in the gym; ten concrete tennis courts and four elevated varsity courts; some fifteen volleyball courts; ten football fields; a half dozen sets of high bars; Kyle Field Stadium in which all varsity football games are played; Kyle Field baseball diamond on which all varsity baseball games are played; the P. L. Downs, Jr., Natatorium open to all students and in which conference swim meets are held; not to mention the handball courts, cross country track, and the little gym which is equipped for boxing, bell and bar weight workouts, and wrestling.

The student of A. & M. never finds himself left out as far as sports facilities are concerned, as the college offers a wide field of equipment and each individual is privileged to use them.

STATE HIGH SCHOOL SWIM MEET HERE SATURDAY

The P. L. Downs, Jr., Natatorium will be the scene of the Texas state high school swimming meet Saturday and should be the best in the history of this phase of Texas aquatic sports, as more advance entries have been received than in recent years. Preliminaries are scheduled for 2:00 p. m. with the finals due to get under way at 7:00 p. m.

Full teams are being entered by several schools in Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, and Fort Worth, with individual entries from many other schools including the A. & M. Consolidated high school. Art Adamson, Aggie Swim Coach, will be director of the meet.

Boys winning first, second and third places in each event will be given medals as in the past, but on account of the war restrictions Mr. Adamson has been unable to secure trophies which have been awarded winning relay teams and also to meet winners.

The 1944 state high school swimming meet eneded in a 42-42 deadlock between Brackenridge of San Antonio and Highland Park. Possession of the cup denoting the state championship team went to Brackenridge on the flip of a coin. Third place was held by Paschal of Fort Worth with 19 points, being one point ahead of Austin in fourth place which registered 18 points.

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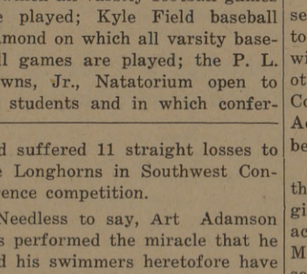

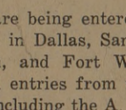

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