

Looking at the Aggies . . .

# From This Angle

LARRY GOODWYN

## Credit Where It's Due to 'Cotton' Howell, SWC's Most Overlooked Man

One of the most underrated and overlooked players the 1946 Southwest Conference season has produced seems, from this angle, to be A&M's sterling left end, Cotton Howell.

Game after game, Cotton has played bang-up ball, snagging key passes and showing well on defense. And yet, in post game writeups, the 19-year-old wingman is seldom mentioned.

## Exceptional Showing Against O. U.

Howell has played steady ball all season and in at least four games has turned in exceptional performances. Against O.U., he was one of the principal bulwarks of an Aggie line that fought the highly rated Sooner forward wall to a standstill. On one occasion in the O.U. game, Cotton made a play that must have made the Aggie coaching staff feel that life was worth living after all. In this particular case, the Sooners pulled a sweep around Howell's end and succeeded in knocking out the defensive tackle and linebacker. With two interferences leading the way, the Sooner ball carrier roared toward Cotton, all alone in the flat. Well, to make a long story short, Howell evaded the first blocker, evaded the second blocker, tackled the ball carrier so hard that he fumbled and Howell also recovered the fumble. Brethren,

that kind of football rates a little notice in the daily sheets once in a while.

Howell also sparkled in the Aggies' victories over T.C.U. and S.M.U., in both games catching passes that set up touchdowns. In the S.M.U. game, Howell's recovery of a blocked kick in the first few minutes of play, set up the touchdown that took the starch out of the Ponies for the whole first half. And, in the Rice game last week, Howell caught two passes in a row to carry the ball from the Rice 32 to the one-foot line, from where Dusek plunged for the Aggies only touchdown. In addition, it was a Baty to Howell pass that put the ball in position for Ballentine to kick the Farmers into a 3-0 lead early in the game. And in between his pass catching chores, Howell finds time to play a brand of defensive ball that isn't exactly a discredit to the team.

## Grabs 16 Out of Aggies' 57 Passes

But the main puzzler is how Cotton's pass-grabbing has escaped notice in this aerial-crazy league. He is among the leading receivers in the conference while playing on a team that is fourth in the league in yards gained passing. Of 57 aeriels the Aggies have completed this season, 16 have been to Howell. In comparison, Texas' All-American, Hub Bechtel, has caught only 9 passes of the 93 that the Longhorns have completed. These facts should speak well

enough for Howell without anything else being said.

Not that Cotton is holding the Aggies up by himself. Far from it, A&M would come out on the shorter end of more games than they have, had it not been for the bruising work of Stautzenberger, Moncreif, Winkler, Higgins, Shefts, and Wright. But these men have received some credit for their work. Howell hasn't. He's been lost in the shuffle and it's high (See THIS ANGLE on Page 4)

# Aggies Still Holding Secret Grid Drills on Kyle Field

The Aggie football team continued engaging in secret practice behind closed gates on Kyle Field this week in preparation for Thursday's Thanksgiving clash with Dana Bible's charges in jinx-laden Memorial Stadium.

Exactly what features of the Aggie offense and defense are being stressed remains a mystery as game time draws

closer. However, it's a safe bet the Aggies' pass defense is going through a thorough working over in anticipation of T.U.'s Laynesponsored aerial assaults.

Hope is being held out that the Aggie pass defense, weak all season, may be slowly rounding into shape. Despite the fact that Rice scored three of its four touchdowns via the aerial route, the Farmer pass defense against the Owls, on the whole, was much improved over that shown through most of the season. Fans who saw the Rice - A & M game are still wondering how Eikenberg ever earned his reputation as a passer after watching him heave high, wobbly passes to men completely in the clear, with touchdown resulting.

However, there is little doubt that Bobby Layne can serve 'em up accurately and in a steady stream. The ability of the Farmer line to rush Layne and of the secondary to cover his receivers, particularly Jimmy Canady, probably will decide the game.

The starting lineup that Norton will toss against the Longhorns is anyone's guess. Injuries have forced the Aggie mentor to start different combinations in every game this year, and with Flanagan definitely out and Zapalac remaining a question mark, the situation will probably hold true Thanksgiving day. The starting four may be anyone of a group

## Norton to Coach Shrine Game Team

Homer Norton, Aggie head coach, will again lead the West against the East in the annual Shrine football game at Kezar Stadium in San Francisco on New Year's Day. The game annually brings together outstanding graduating seniors from schools all over the nation with the receipts going to the Shrine Children's Hospital Fund.

During the war, the scarcity of playing material forced the game's founding fathers to relax the rule against playing anyone but graduating seniors, but with player strength back to its pre-war quantity, the rule will again be enforced this year. The move makes ineligible Bob Goode, Aggie half-back, who last year as a freshman, caught the winning touchdown pass as the West turned back a favored East eleven.

On that same West team in addition to Goode were four other Southwest Conference players: Gene Wilson and Doak Walker of S.M.U.; "Bull" Johnson of Baylor; and Leonard Dickey of A & M. Only Wilson and Dickey will be eligible to play this year as Walker is in the service and Johnson and Goode are not seniors.

However, the Aggies boast two seniors, Willie Zapalac and Monte Moncreif, who have played in the New Year's Day classic in year's past. Both will be eligible to be selected this year.

Named as assistants to Norton in coaching the West squad are A. L. "Lon" Steiner, head coach at Oregon State and George Sauer, head coach at Nebraska.

## INTRAMURALS

**Cliff Ackerman**  
The success of the Intramural program comes about with the cooperation of the participants and the Intramural Managers and Officials. This fall the cooperation has been excellent, and a continuing of the feeling and an understanding of each other's job will bring about a greater Intramural program.

The various leagues are moving along and in the near future some college champs will be named. Nearing the finish line is basketball, tennis, and freshmen flag football.

**BASKETBALL**  
Dorm No. 16 stayed in the undefeated list as they beat a hard fighting Mitchell team 19 to 7. Hoover, Weidenfield, and Foster sparked No. 16 to their win, while Scheumack and Harmon played on outstanding game for the losers. The high scoring team of the week was "A" Inf. as they ran over "A" Signal 20 to 1. Every man on the winning team had it easy throughout. Riha was the lucky man to score the lone point for the losers. Dorm No. 15 edged out a victory from Mitchell 23 to 27. Ingram and Ballard led the winners in the scoring with 6 points each. Andrews and Ellis set the pace for the losers in defensive.

**FLAG FOOTBALL**  
During the week most of the

## Aggie Bees-Shorthorns On Saturday

The Texas Aggie "B" team terminates the current football season this Saturday in San Antonio with its annual tilt with the University of Texas Shorthorns. With kick-off scheduled for 2:30 p. m. the game is to be played at Alamo Stadium.

To date the SMU ponies are at the top of the SWC "B" league with five wins, no losses and one tie, the single tie being handed them by the Aggie Bees in Dallas. Arkansas is second with six wins in eight games and A&M is third with three wins, two ties and one loss. The Texas Shorthorns are rated fifth.

Last week the Bees traveled to Houston to avenge themselves of the only defeat of the season handed them by the Rice Institute Blue Bolts earlier in the year. They handed the undefeated Owlets a 20-0 shellacking but in doing so lost the services of ace fullback Charlie Boyles who was laid out with a painful knee injury.

This week Coach Charlie DeWare lost Jim Boswell, ace blocking and running back who was top man in net yardage gained last week with 47 yards in 8 tries. Boswell moved to the "A" squad and Red Burditt was transferred to replace him.

Bruce Wallace, ace quarterback will not be able to play as was hoped and the presence of guard Calvin Dupree is still problematical. Dupree was hurt in the game with the SMU Ponies.

The loss of Boyles leaves DeWare's team shorthanded.

At present the Aggie starting line-up will probably be Yeagain and Pollock at end, Andrews and Denton at tackle, Brown and Hill at guard, Guly at center, Beesley at quarterback, Dew and Burditt at halfback, and Frey at fullback.

games won were by high scores and shutouts. High scoring team of the week was "E" Inf. when they outplayed "B" Field 27 to 0. The best game of the season was the semi-final playoff game in the Freshman leagues between "E" Field and "A" CWS. "E" Field came out victorious on penetrations in a scoreless game. In the finals "E" Field will meet "C" Field.

**VOLLEYBALL**

In one of the best volleyball matches of the season "C" Field over came an outstanding "A" Coast team to win that semi-final match 15-12, 15-12. For the winners Tettle was outstanding with his smashing spikes. On the losers team Gilbert showed skill in blocks and spiking.

The finals in volleyball will find "E" Inf. and "C" Field fighting it out. This match is scheduled for the night of Tuesday, December 3 at 7:15 in the Big Gym.

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## Poll Shows Hogs Deserve Bowl Bid

Arkansas should play in the Cotton Bowl New Year's Day if the Porkers end the '46 season in a tie with the Rice Owls. At least, that's the opinion of the leading sports writers throughout the state who were polled by Jere Hayes, sports-editor of the Dallas Times Herald. Of 13 writers questioned, nine voted for the Porkers, three for the Owls and one favored matching the two clubs in the New Year's Day classic.

The nine writers voting for Arkansas were: Ed. Fite, United Press; Harold Scherwitz, San Antonio Light; U. V. Johnston, A&M Battalion; Troy Gordon, International News Service; Paul Tracy, Daily Texan; Dick Freeman, Houston Chronicle; Lloyd Gregory, Houston Post; Harold Ratliff, Associated Press; and Jere Hayes, Dallas Times-Herald. Jinx Tucker, Waco News-Tribune, Lorin McMullen, Ft. Worth Star-Telegram and Wilbur Evans, Austin Statesman, voted for placing Rice in the Cotton Bowl.

The 13th man polled, Flem Hall, of the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram, made no choice, suggesting the best bet would be to match the two in the Cotton Bowl on Jan. 1 to settle the Southwest Conference Championship once and for all. Hall also stated that if either Rice or Arkansas refused to meet in a title clash, the bid should go to the eleven that was willing to play it off. The vote was taken to determine the team entitled to the invitation, not necessarily the team the writers rated as the strongest.

However, Rice has two games yet to win before eligible to lay a claim on the championship and although both games are against so called "weak sisters", T. C. U. and Baylor, the possibility of an upset, knocking the Owls out of any contention, are far from remote. After what happened in Ft. Worth last week, T.U. will be the first to verify that statement.

## Receipts Needed For T. U. Tickets

The supply of 7,000 tickets A&M has been allotted for the T. U. game was rapidly vanishing late Thursday afternoon with a definite possibility existing that holders of some coupon books may be left out entirely.

All students are reminded that Coupon Books and Receipts for payment of student activities fees must be shown when purchasing T. U. game tickets. Ducats are on sale at the Y.M.C.A. at \$1.20 per.

Tickets for the Aggie Bee-Texas Shorthorn game at Alamo Stadium in San Antonio Saturday have been taken off sale at the Athletic office, but students wishing to see the game may purchase tickets in San Antonio.

The history of pensions or other aid for disabled war veterans or their dependents dates back to A. D. 6, the time of Augustus, the first of the Roman emperors, Veterans Administration said.



BOB GARY

PRIZE PIVOTMAN—Doing a bang-up job of plugging the center gap is Bob Gary, above. That big number 50 has been in on a lot of plays this season and much is expected from the husky center next year.

## Two SWC Contests Slated Saturday

Only two conference games are scheduled Saturday as three members take an off day in preparation for Thanksgiving Day games. The Baylor Bears journey to Dallas to meet S.M.U. in a battle to decide who occupies the loop cellar while the other conference tilt matches Rice against T.C.U. in Houston.

A. & M., Texas and Arkansas are all idle this weekend, the Aggies and T.U. sharpening their wares for their Turkey Day tilt in Austin and Arkansas making final preparations for a Thanksgiving invasion of Tulsa to meet the Golden Hurricanes.

Both S.M.U. and Baylor have yet to win a conference game, the Bears going down before Texas, Arkansas, A & M and T.C.U.

while S.M.U. has been bowing to A&M, Rice, Texas and Arkansas.

Rice must beat the upset-loaded Horned Frogs to keep intact their chance for a tie for the crown with Arkansas. The Owls have one more game, with Baylor, after T.C.U.

## Ten Stations to Carry T. U. Game

The play-by-play broadcast of the Texas University-Texas A&M Thanksgiving Day football classic, to be played Thursday afternoon in Austin, will be brought to fans throughout the State by a special network of ten Texas radio stations. The broadcast, sponsored by Humble Oil and Refining Company, will begin at 1:50 p.m.

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