

Aggies To Be In Top Shape For Turkey Day

Ball Handling, Passing And Running Look Good in Drill

By BILL POTTS

The Aggie varsity squad held a secret workout on Kyle Field yesterday in preparation for the Turkey Day game in Austin Thursday.

Emphasis was being placed on offense during the practice and hard blocking and tackling were skipped in order to prevent any possible injuries.

For a team that has lost nine straight, they had up plenty of spirit during the practice and for that reason, it looks as if the Longhorns will be given a rough time of it in Austin Thursday.

The ball handling was being hindered some by cold hands yesterday caused by the cold north breeze but despite that, still looked good.

Burr Bats and Jimmy Cashion were doing the pass tossing as usual, and the pigskin was hitting their receivers right on the mark.

The squad had its group picture made during the practice and was suited up in game uniforms. Included were Wray Whitaker, John Christensen, and Percy Burk. Whitaker and Christensen were injured earlier in the season and were forced to interrupt their participation until next year.

Burke a reserve tackle, received a jaw injury in scrimmage last Thursday and had to quit for the remainder of this season also.

Asked what the physical condition of the team would be for the game next Thursday, trainer

Blaine Rideout stated that "every one will be in good condition and ready to go for this last game."

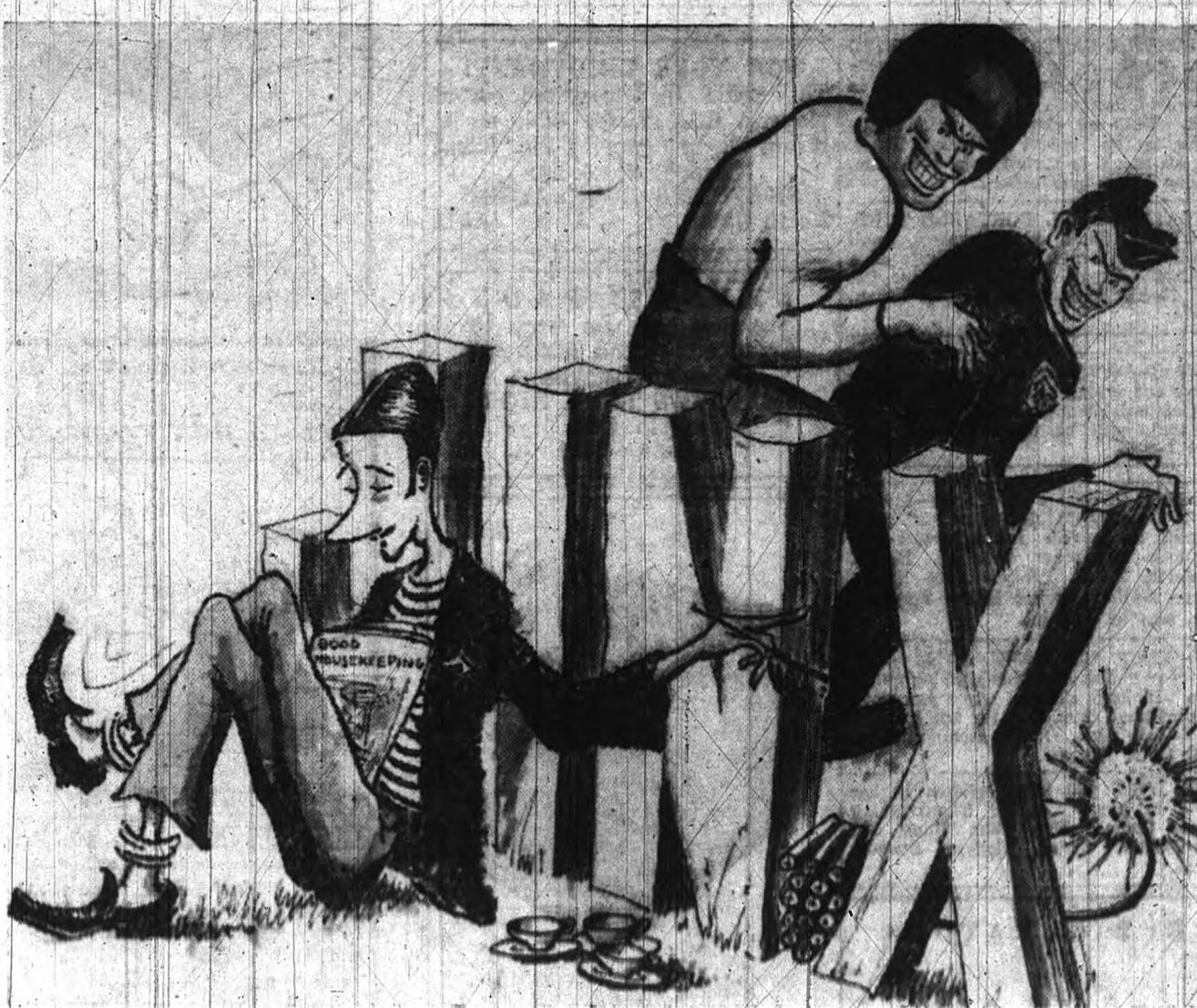
Guard Odell Statuenderger was still lightly limping from a kick he received on his knee in scrimmage last week but Rideout said that he would be ready to go Thursday.

The squad will start tapering off the practicing today. Tomorrow is the last day of practicing for this season.

They will remain here tomorrow night and leave at about 8:30 Thursday morning by bus for Austin.

When they take the field Thanksgiving afternoon, the Aggies will be two touchdown underdogs since the fact that the jinx of Memorial Stadium has gone unbroken since 1924.

A win by the Aggies would prove to be one of the biggest upsets to ever take place in the Southwest Conference. The Longhorns, by virtue of their 13 game losing streak have the incentive necessary to goad them on to a win.



Worst vs. Best May Alter SWC Final Standings

There is an upsetting situation in the Southwest Conference as it comes to the final week—the two teams with the poorest records meet the two with the best to decide the championship.

Texas A&M and Texas Christian may give the answers to the puzzle involving Texas and Southern Methodist.

Southern Methodist clinched a Cotton Bowl bid and at least a share of the crown by beating Baylor last week. The Mustangs can get clear title by whipping Texas Christian Saturday.

Texas can keep its hopes for a share of the title by beating Texas A&M in the traditional Thanksgiving Day game between these two huge state schools.

Rice, which picked up steam in the second half to crush Texas A&M, 21-7, meets Baylor.

Arkansas, which had a briar warrup with Tulsa, 55-18, tangles with William & Mary at Little Rock.

Southern Methodist came to the end of a perfect season last year against Texas Christian. The Mustangs were lucky to come off with a tie.

Texas A&M hasn't won a game all year, but working on the theory that it can't be worse, the Aggies might break an ancient jinx and beat Texas in its own Memorial Stadium.

Both the Aggies and Horned Frogs are in perfect position. Each is figured to lose, but if one or both doesn't—what an upsetting thought!

Texas' chance for a share of the title depends on its beating A&M and Texas Christian's beating Southern Methodist.

Win lose or draw with Rice this week, Bob Woodruff's Baylor Bears have their best record in years. At the moment they stand third in season standings and are tied for third in the conference.

Arkansas can take some of the glitter out of the Delta Bowl if it thumps William & Mary, one of the teams already signed for this Memphis, Tenn., New Year's Day game.

Bivins Labeled As Good Opponent By Louis After Match

Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis labels Jimmy Bivins the toughest opponent he has faced so far in his exhibition tour.

"I don't know why he shouldn't be a contender if he gets serious about his training," Louis said in his dressing room last night after engaging in a six-round no-decision affair with the Cleveland negro.

With both fighters using 12-ounce gloves instead of the regulation eight, Bivins opened a cut above Louis' eye in the second round and again in the fourth.

Bivins did most of the leading, while Louis opened up only sporadically. He almost dropped Bivins with a right in the second when the two were in a neutral corner.

The champion jabbed most of the time and seemed content to take it easy, but opened up suddenly at one point in the fifth and drove Bivins to cover with a flurry of rights and lefts.

Although the exhibition was a no decision affair, Matchmaker Larry Atkins conducted a poll among the newsmen at ringside and reported the writers favored Bivins by a 9 to 5 vote. However, most everyone agreed that Louis had plenty in reserve.

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Bears Favored in Basketball Race Even Without Robinson

With the final gun of official 1948 football season due to be fired next Saturday, the interest of the sport fans is turning towards basketball in general, and the Southwest conference race in particular.

A month ago the sports writers were picking only the second place team, with the powerful Baylor team left intact from last season. But hotshot Jackie Robinson was recently lost to that team as a result of an injury incurred last season. Robinson was the deadliest shot on the Bruin squad, and was a member of the Olympic squad this summer.

However, Baylor is not ready to be counted out of its favorite sport with Heatherington, Owens, DeWitt and Johnson all returning starters from last year's conference champion squad.

From there on it will be a race for seconds and thirds. Jack Grey still has a good portion of his TU team left from last year, but will probably have to fight SMU, Rice and A&M for the runner-up position.

SMU will have several good sophomores, including two ex-Jefferson stars, Kyle Rote and Lutz. A&M will start off with practically the same team which finished next to the cellar last year.

Bill Batey, Billy Turnbow, Gene Schrickel, Mike Garcia and Sam Jenkins have all been working out lately. Several sophomores are expected to play quite a bit this season, but John DeWitt is the only one given an outside chance to break into the lineup until mid-term, when Sam Jenkins leaves via graduation.

Tall DeWitt has been working out at the post position and will probably start at that spot.

Army Needs 14,359 Officers To Fill Complement

The Army needs 14,359 officers for its present mission, Colonel Oscar B. Abbott, senior army instructor for the Organized Reserves in Texas, announced today.

The processing of applications for Reserve Officers have been streamlined to permit direct application to the Adjutant General, Washington, D. C., Abbott stated.

Application forms and information can be obtained from any local Organized Reserve Corps Instructor's Office.

The Department of the Army has designated two Organized Reserve Corps units of College Station and Bryan as supporting elements for the Army's 18-Division Striking Force. These two units will receive top priority in active duty training and equipment.

Organization and equipping of the 18-Division Striking Force that is made up of 12 regular Army divisions, 6 national guard divisions, and ORC supporting units, is to be completed by July 1, 1949 Abbott said.

Irate Fan's Anger Turn to Praise As Team Clicks

NEW YORK, Nov. 23 (AP)—Penn State was leading Penn 7-0 when State's little Elwood Petchel tossed a pass that almost was intercepted. A loud-voiced fan, who had been riding Coach Bob Higgins all day, belatedly: "That's it, Higgins, throw the game away; throw it away, Higgins." —Just then another pass clicked for a second Penn State touchdown.

Pausing only to get a lungful of air, the alumus (it must have been one) went right on: "That's it Higgins, pass 'em to death."

Chili Cochrane, Indiana U. backfield coach, had just acquired a house in Bloomington. He was leaving reluctantly for the regular Sunday evening conference with Head Coach Clyde Smith when some friends dropped in with the makings of a house-warming dinner.

Cochrane phoned the boss to explain. "If you've still got five games, by all means stay with them," said Smith.

Red Smith, New York Herald Tribune: "Fewer touchdown passes might have the intensely desirable effect of restoring the terminal 'G' to written English. There wouldn't be so many Slingin' Sam's pitchin' Peters and Chunkin' Charleses runnin' around and throwin' scorin' passes and clutterin' up the sportin' pages and lousin' up our Sunday mornin' readin'."

Two Aggies Invited To Shrine Contest

Two Aggie football players, Bob Goode and Jim Winkler, have received invitations to the annual East-West Shrine game. Goode was informed of his selection yesterday afternoon by telegram, and indicated his willingness to go.

Winkler was not available for comment, but it is believed that he too will accept the invitation.

Twelve members of the squad of the Chicago Bears of the National Football League make their homes in Chicago.

This Week Rounds Out November Intramural Action

Intramural activities slacked off a bit Monday afternoon and will continue today. However no games are scheduled for tomorrow and only a few for a week from today.

In Flag Football, "A" QMC ran away from "F" Field Artillery, 23 to 0. Bob Thomas was outstanding for the quartermasters, running back one kickoff, passing for two TD's and participating in two points after.

"C" Field Artillery won over "A" Transport on penetrations. The artillerymen made four 40-yard markers and one twenty while the transport nine crossed their opponent's forty but once. Royder and Bowman played fine ball for "C" battery while Gover and Berchardt stood out for "A" ATC.

In Volleyball, "C" Cavalry took a forfeit away from "E" Air Force. "A" ASA pushed two quick victories over "D" Infantry. "A" CWS did the same to "A" Air Force. "D" Field set down "A" Infantry in straight games. Day students forfeited to "E" Field and "C" Flight and "B" Vets were in a double forfeit. "B" Air Force defaulted to "A" Signal.

"B" Athletic and Senior Company double faulted as did "B" Infantry and "A" Field Artillery in tennis.

In the intramural handball tournament, Jewel McDowell won over A. T. Pappas of "A" Signal 21 to 11 and 21 to 15 to take singles championship. McDowell will now team with Burr Lane in doubles against Pappas and Joe Livingston.

Basketball playoffs have been tentatively set for the week of December 4 through 10. As yet, no winner has been decided in A Veterans League or B or G Military. Games will be scheduled at night and played in the DeWitt Field House.

Fine Beginning

AUSTIN, (AP)—By downing Louisiana State here in the 1948 gridiron opener, the University of Texas Longhorns maintained their record of never losing a home opener. In 56 years of football history, Texas has lost only one opening game, that by an extra point, at Kansas in 1938. The entire record reads 52 wins, two ties and one loss. Highest opening game margin ever scored by the Longhorns was 74-0 over SMU in 1916. Most points ever scored against them in an opener was the 19 notched by Kansas in the lone loss. The period from 1913 to 1933 found the Longhorns being scored against only once in 21 opening games.

Two Chicago Teams Cop Titles In Professional Ball Leagues

NEW YORK, Nov. 22 (AP)—Two running and passing combinations that work together like beer and pretzels are bidding for attention in the rival pro football circuits.

The National League presents Tommygun Thompson and Steve Van Buren of the Philadelphia Eagles. The all-American conference counters with automatic Otto Graham and Marion Motley of the Cleveland Browns.

Since the two leagues don't speak to each other officially, the relative merits of the pairs won't be determined on the gridiron.

Both combinations had good days yesterday. Graham and Motley powered the Browns to a 34-21 decision over the New York Yankees. Thompson and Van Buren led the Eagles to a 42-21 triumph over Washington at Philadelphia.

Los Angeles, the last club that had a chance to share in the crown, lost it by bowing to the Chicago Cardinals, 27-24.

The Chicago Bears had it easy in Boston, downing the hapless Yanks, 51-17, clinching the title.

Green Bay's Packers looked so bad in losing to New York, 49-3, that coach Curly Lambeau asked waiters on one player and declared he'd "like to get rid of 10 or 12 more."

Bill Dudley scored twice for Detroit as the Lions upset Pittsburgh, 17-14.

San Francisco and Brooklyn acted as if they'd never heard of the two-plateau system. If they had, they forgot to bring the defensive units to Ebbets Field yesterday. When the firing was all over San Francisco was on top, 63-40, and 12 assorted conference offensive records had been broken.

Northwestern to Play in Rose Bowl

EVANSTON, Ill., Nov. 23 (AP)—Northwestern's second-place Wildcats today unanimously were named to replace the big nine in the Rose Bowl next New Year's Day.

The entirely expected selection was made in a telegraphic poll of the league's nine faculty representatives and announced by Commissioner L. L. (Tag) Wilson.

Undeclared Michigan was the big nine's champion for the second straight year, but the Wolverines were ineligible for a return trip to Pasadena. A conference restriction bans any team from making more than one Rose Bowl appearance in three years.

This Northwestern, beaten only by Michigan in six league starts, received the bid to face the Pacific Coast Conference representative, as yet undetermined, in the battle of Rose.

Riflemen Win Initial Match. Large Firing Program Ahead

By HERSCHEL SHELBY

Utah State, University of Nevada, Michigan State, Iowa State, Oregon State and the University of Hawaii. Also scheduled are matches with N.M.M.L., the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy and the 35th Inf. Regt. in Honshu, Japan.

Tentative matches are with University of Alabama, West Point, Annapolis, Yale, Harvard and Washington U.

The rifle team shows signs of improvement over last year's team which was second only to Oklahoma A&M in the Fourth Army area in the National Intercollegiate Match.

Clyde Buchanan has been consistently high man each week with fine scores of 376, 380, and 383. He has recorded scores of 93 and 94 in standing which is outstanding marksmanship anywhere. C. A. Taylor has also fired a 380 round and team captain, Jim McCulley has been consistently good with scores of 375, 377 and 379.

Postal matches are fired at the respective schools involved in the match and the scores are then forwarded to the opposing school. In this way a team may fire against one or more schools a week for postal matches with ROTC units from Xavier University, University of Miss., Presbyterian College,

Utah State, University of Nevada, Michigan State, Iowa State, Oregon State and the University of Hawaii. Also scheduled are matches with N.M.M.L., the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy and the 35th Inf. Regt. in Honshu, Japan.

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