Ratliff Defends His Column About Ags, Strikes at Simmen BY HAROLD V. RATLIFF Associated Press Sports Editor

A Couple of my esteemed contemporaries are taking cracks at me for saying Texas A&M didn't get top foot-ball material because of the trouble over hazing and over firing the coach several years back. We had advanced that as the cause for a big Aggie losing streak climaxed by the 35-0 licking from Villanova Sept. 17.

John Clift of the Denison Herald action was taken somebody slip-uses an article from the Texas ped it in while we weren't looking.

A&M publicity department citing the top players coming to Aggieland this year, then he says Dub iversity you, will find a unique King, the Aggie sports publicity coaching situation. S.M.U. is the director, sent this out as a direct only college in the country that answer to me. John would cast has an "officiating coach." King in the light of being highly incensed.

Citing the article that named such top schoolboy stars as Darrow Hooper of Fort Worth, Connie Magouirk of New London, Chuck O'Neal of Corpus Christi and Ray Graves of Stephenville, Clift Ends up with the line: "We think that Dub King has

covered his point well. Wonder what Ratliff thinks." The latter statements are easily answered

the DAY BEFORE my column went out to Texas newspapers, Usual for S. M. Forest was stuck for 110 yards. written.

In the second place our column few victories. wasn't talking about this year but of the past few years when Aggieland didn't get many top athletes. The fine atheletes coming in this year won't be eligible for the varsity until next season.

the trouble that drove away athletes: "That may be changed since everything is operating smoothly at Aggieland but it will take several years to get the job done.".

will be winning a championship this year?

The other sports writer to take exceptions was Frank Simmen, Jr., Everyone Smiling College.

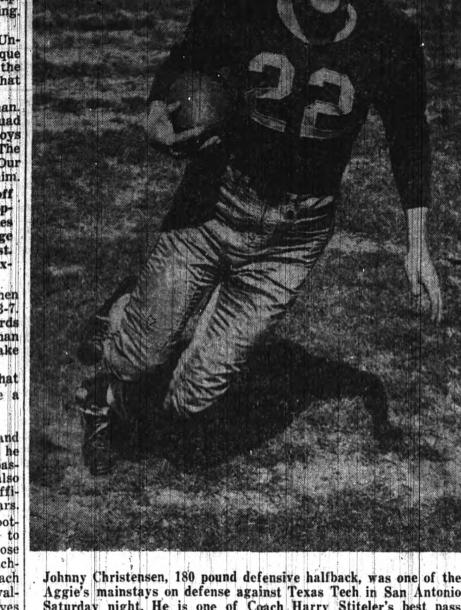
Out at Southern Methodist Un-E. O. (Doc) Hayes? is the man. It is his duty to watch the squad

in training and to remind the boys each time they violate a rule. The players jokingly call him "Our Offside coach." But they heed him. Doc's eagle eye has paid off for instance, last year the opposition had almost three times as many penalties and yardage assessed as Southern Methodist. And S.M.U. won every game except one.

Then take last Saturday when In the first place, the article S. M. U. beat Wake Forest 13-7. sent out by Dub King was mailed The Methodists drew 65 yards in penalities (a little higher than usual for S. M. U.) while Wake It is reasonable to assume that Haves is responsible for quite a

Hayes never played football and he also never coached it but he was one of the top high school basketball mentors in Texas. He also was a football and basketball offi-In our column we had said of cial for more than a dozen years. He wasn't hired to coach football at S. M. U. He was added to the staff for the express purpose of watching the players and teaching them the rules. Head Coach

Well, John, do you think A&M Matty Bell says Doc is a very valuable member of the staff. Hayes also is varsity basketball coach.



Battalion

Aggie's mainstays on defense against Texas Tech in San Antonio Saturday night. He is one of Coach Harry Stiteler's best pass defenders.

Rough Sooners Cadets Rank 38th in Weekly Next On Aggie Williamson Gridiron Ratings **Grid Schedule**

Texas Ranked First

Opponents Rated High

Tech Tumbles

BY HAROLD GANN

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The Aggies, fresh from their convincing win over Texas Tech, began practice yesterday in preparation for the highly touted Oklahoma Sooners. Oklahoma trounced Boston Col-lege, 46-0, Saturday night in a game which proved that it would be as strong as a way are when

be as strong as a year ago, when it took the Big Seven crown and 20 was 85.0 and this week the ratwent on to pound North Carolina ing is up to 88.0, an increase of in the Sugar Bowl. three points.

True, Oklahoma lost the great Jack Mitchell, famous quarterback and engineer of the split T offense. True, they lost tenacious national ranking in the ratings and lineman Buddy Burris and Homer figure from 98.0 to 98.5. TCU, Payne, all conference stars. True, the only other Southwest Conferthe Sooners lost Murle Greathouse, enceiteam to see action before this sedulous defensive linebacker, weekend and gain a rating, fell But—Coach Bud Wilkinson has from fifth to twenty-fifth. The plugged these places with men that TCU "earned comparison" showed have proven their ability of brid- a corresponding fall from 94.5 to ging the gap.

Men like Quarterback Darrel | Rice took over the seventh spot in Royal, 170 pound converted half- the latest ratings with a 96.5 mark, back, who ran the club against Bos- The defending conference champion ton like an expert as he teamed Mustangs could do no better than with flashy halfbacks, George Tho-mas and Lindell Pearson, and a Among the other conference potential all conference fullback, teams, Baylor moved in to the Leon Heath. Thomas scored three twenty-eighth slot by virtue of a of the seven Oklahoma touchdowns, 191.5 rating and Arkansas appearone of them on a 95-yard return ed well down the rolls at its 85.5 of the opening kickoff. mark was only good for the fif-**Big** Line ty-sixth position.

As usual, the Sooners will feature a big, aggressive line that The Villanova Wildcats slipped

works in units as Oklahoma performs in the split T. Bobby Goad slightly from number two to the and Jim Owens, sticky fingered third spot, yet stepped their rat-receivers of Royals aerials, will ing up from 96.5 to 97.5. This inhold down the end positions. Crease in the Wildcat prestige was

Lon Manley and Fade Walker caused by the 27-6 defeat of Penn more than fill the tackle slots. State by the Main Liners. None other than the Aggie op-Expected to see lots of action at guards are Norman McNabb and ponents of the coming weekend, Stan West. Charley Dowell will be Oklahoma, replaced the Wildcats he anchor man as national runner-up. The Soon-

The Sooner forward wall aver- ers played their first game, and ages 195 pounds per man while the played havoc with the authorities' average backfield weight is 182. "close game" predictions, when they Last season the Okies set two dumped the Boston College Eagles

scoring records. They averaged 46-0 forty-eight and four-tenths points LSU's Tigers were ranked fortya game in Big Seven competition eighth with an 86.5 rating. The

and had a thirty-six point average Baydu Felines will be the Cadet adversary the week following the for the season. Bud Wilkinson is now serving his

A&M lost ground in Paul William-son's weekly Scientific Football Ratings, dropping from the eight-eenth spot nationally to the thirty-eighth spot. Actually, the only reason the Cadets were so high last week was that only a few teams had played

AMILLOU NO IVIIVNO.	COLUMN TOWN	TCU will be
Texas	98.5	bulge over the R
Oklahoma	98.0	Little Rock cont
Villanova	97.5	even 10 point m
Minnesota	97.0	tilt with LSU
So. Calif.	97 0	Baylor's Bears
Notre Dame	96.5	frey with Miss
Rice	96.5	frey with Miss
No. Carolina	96.0	Starksville favor since the Maro
Stanford	96.0	since the Maro
Tulane	95.5	86.0 mark.
Mississippi		SMU hits the
The second state of the second s	1000 0000000000000000000000000000000000	havet of ordere

Sooners Are Favored

Texas retained its number one

sissippi State at red by 5.5 points ns are given an field with the ver the Missour

given a 6.5 point aborbacks in their st. Rice holds an

argin in its night Baton Rouge

will enter their

From the information already behind the Methodists. The Show-

ven on the Aggies and the Big Me-Staters are rated at 93.5. Tex-Red team from OU, one can easily as naturally has a big point ad-figure out that the Sooners are vantage compared to the Steers' the favorites in the tilt between 98.5.

Frank concludes his treatise with this statement:

"It is plain to see, Harold, that your column took little or no forethough. In the first place a victory (over Villanova) was not expected; In the second place, you were definitely wrong when you said we do not get the top ootball candidates.

In our column we had invited a check of the Aggie football roster to see how many names of heralded high school stars were listed.

"What about Robert Schaffer, Sam Moses, Bull Lawson, Russel Hudeck, Jerry Crossman, not to mention Dick Gardemal and Rob- ing room with joy showing on their ert Smith who were stars of the season before that? Look at the record of the Aggie Fish, Haroldthey only lost one game the whole season after going into three as decided underdogs. And wasn't it the Towas sports writers who voted team in the state?

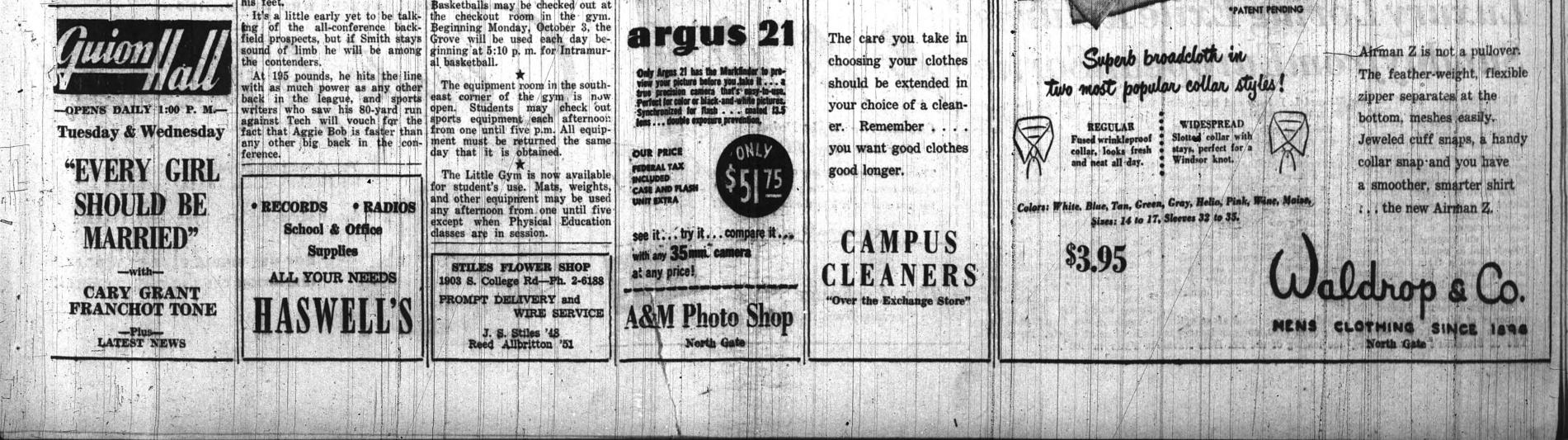
O.K., what about Schaffer, Moses, et al? Check the All-State lists and see if you find any of those youngsters on them. Perhaps they were star high school football players but the word didn't get out- at least not as far enough for the Texas Sports Writers Association to put them on All-State squads.

Also when did the Texas Sports Writers Association vote A&M's freshmen the best in the state? As secretary of this organization we have attended all meetings and handled all correspondence. If this

in 1914 at the age of 21 and his second 17 years later at the age If one of his four touchdowns of 38.

Bowlers Meet

The Aggie bowling team will hold its first business meeting of the year at the YMCA lounge, Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. All members of last year's team are requested to be present.



third year as head mentor. During this time, his teams have won (See SOONERS, Page 4) All Cheer, No Gloom In Ag's The 26-7 defeat the Ags pinned on the Raiders showed up in Wil-Hampton Not On Locker Room After 26-7 Win The Texas Aggies didn't kick 1949 CC Team field goal or have one scored against them during the entire

one just as interesting took place in

hard-fought win. nard-fought win. The players entered the dress-

Smith Is Among **Gainers** Now

When Bob Smith of Texas A&M carried the football 214 yards in 31 tries last week against Texas Tech, he vaulted up among the nation's leading ground-gainers and estab-

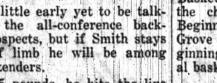
lished a single game record that other SWC ball carriers are going to have difficulty breaking. In addition to his 214 yards gained on rushing plays, Smith caught the only pass the Aggies completed for an additional 41

Francis Ouimet won his first U. S. amateur golf championship ing to have their work cut out if they are to personally gain 225

> runs had not been called back, Smith would have established an-

other 1949 mark. As it was, he was credited with three touchdowns, ramming the line twice for two yard TDs and later streaking 80 yards for a fourth quarter score. San Antonio fans were not surprised/at the brilliant performance of the Aggie sophomore from

Houston. They recalled that back in high school, Smith socked SMU's Kyle Rote so hard that the Jefferson star was slow in getting to



A great show was put on Sat-urday night in Alamo Stadium, but football team had won. I strolled up to Jim Cashion and were not only players in the dress-

the Aggie dressing room after the said, "Jim, how does it feel to ing room, but sport writers, parplay on a winning team after all ents of players, and visitors of all this time." Jim just shook his head kinds. and said, "great." Another senior

Wray Whittaker, said the same thing, "great." Then I walked over to a group around the dressing room trying

of sophs who were already dressed and waiting for the bus and this time it was Russel Hudeck that I approached. "Russ," I said, "what did you think of the game?" He rehands.

plied, "Why heck," Simmen, knew we'd win all the time." In the midst of all the confusion, That seemed to be the sentiment The seniors were really pleased. The youngsters on the squad, although still happy, felt that they would and had nothing to

'MURAL



ule of the intramural games for both corps and non-corps teams will be published in the Battalion two days in advance. Notices for intramural managers and Athletic officers will also be in this column.

There is still a need for Sophomore managers, both corps and noncorps. Any one interested in working this year see Barney Welch or Bill Thornton in the Intramural office at 5 p. m. any afternoon this week. There should be at least one manager for each outfit and dorm.

The Grove is now available from 1-6 p. m. daily for anyone interest-ed in practicing basketball. Four new courts have been laid out. Basketballs may be checked out at

BY FRANK SIMMEN, JR. , faces, and sweat on their backs, worry about. The game was over. For the first Going back to the dressing room, have to look at the back of Aggie For the holder of the Southwest

Conference mile and two-mile records won't be eligible to compete in the fall sport. It isn't that Hamp-

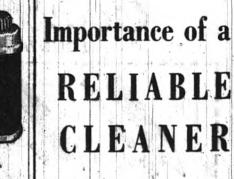
ton is falling down in his book-work. He's doing fine in the grades Harry Stiteler, was standing over in the corner with a smile on his face. Bill DuBose, was walking department.

But it turns out that Hampton to find his linemen to tell them ran on an Aggie cross-country they played a fine game, and team back before the war and has Bones Irving, also happy over the used up his eligibility in this triumph, was smiling and shaking sport. But the little smooth-striding blond from Brady has another season of varsity track eligibility

Stiteler strolled to the middle of and will be out to set new mile the room holding a football in his and two-mile marks next spring. hand. After quieting the bunch | Hampton was unbeaten in 1948 down, he said to the gang, "Boys, cross-country competition.

this is the ball; what are we going to do with it?" Right away somebody said, "give it to Smith", then almost immediately someone else said, "what about Goff?" A split (See LOCKER, Page 4)





Bill Rives, Sports Editor of The Dallas Morning News, was the featured speaker Thursday night on The Battalion's Quarterback Club program. He spoke on Southwest Conference football teams.

