

Texas Aggie All-Americans



Joe Boyd
Tackle, 1939



Matty Bell

Bell, another fine A&M coach who could be given the name "All-American," was head coach from 1929 through 1933, won 24 games, lost 21, and tied three.



Dana X. Bible

Bible, A&M's top coach, directed athletics and the football team from 1917, 1919-1928. In that period his record was set with 72 wins, 19 losses, and 9 ties, a percentage of .765 in 11 years of coaching; the 1917, '19 teams were undefeated, untied, and unscathed upon.



John Kimbrough
All-American Fullback, 1939-40



Homer Norton

Norton replaced Bell in 1934 and through 1947 was head coach. His teams won 83, lost 70, tied 11; he produced a "National Champion" team in '39, four All-American, and two bowl championships.



Art Harnden
U. S. Olympic Team, 1948



Marshall Robnett
Guard, 1940

Perfect Seasons In 1917, '19

College Station, Dec. 5, 1917—"Champions of the Southwest" is the title the fighting Aggie football team wears after defeating the last of their conference opponents to become football leaders of the entire Southwest.

With the defeat of their last conference rival, Rice Institute, the Aggies have ended their first undefeated, untied, unscathed season of conference football.

Led by the able coaching of D. X. Bible, head coach, and D. V. Graves, assistant coach, the Aggies have succeeded in piling up 38 touchdowns, 30 goals, and four field goals for a grand total of 270 points for the season. This stands as the most impressive scoring record ever made in the Southwest Conference.

Before the 1917 season opened, the Texas Aggies had only four "T" men returning to the squad. Three of these were guards, the other a halfback. A&M had been placed as a third-rater team by the sports writers at the beginning of the season.

Before the opening game with Austin College, Coach Bible had attained a great backfield made up of R. G. Higinbotham, halfback; J. R. McClintock, halfback; Collins, halfback; H. B. Wier, quarterback; K. C. Elam, quarterback; and J. F. Mahan, fullback.

Coach Graves had assembled an exceptionally fine line with M. H. "Ox" Ford, tackle (Captain of the team); J. B. McKnight, guard; E. S. Wilson, guard; C. P. T. Griesenbeck, guard; C. B. Gouger, end; Scott Alexander, end; J. D. McMurray, tackle; G. D. Anderson, center; and L. M. Gilmore, center. Others on the Aggie squad were Garth, Martin, Wendt, Copeland, Furman, Fabian, Boreski, McMillan, Egger, Sims, Wolston, Davis, McHenry, Dinan, Williamson, Patislo, Sparks, Price, and Koly.

A&M	66	Austin College	0
A&M	98	Dallas U.	0
A&M	20	Southwestern	0
A&M	27	L.S.U.	0
A&M	35	Tulane	0
A&M	7	Baylor	0
A&M	7	Texas U.	0
A&M	10	Rice	0
Totals	270		0

College Station, Dec. 1, 1919—The Aggie Football Team has just ended its second unscathed season in the three football years between 1917-1920 after emerging victoriously over the Texas University Longhorns 7-0, a game in which every man on the Aggie eleven started.

Coach D. X. Bible led his Texas Aggies eleven to victory after victory as they rolled easily through the season. Their only serious trouble came with Howard Payne College when the Brownwood boys proved they had a hard combination to break.

The Howard Payne eleven stood their ground like a stone wall in the face of drive after drive made by the Aggies. Only in the fourth quarter was the drive and stamina of the Red and White to become apparent as the Aggies drilled on to the goal line with the winning touchdowns.

The Texas Aggie team of 1919, headed by "Woodrow" Wilson (capt.), included A. B. Knickerbocker, Frank Murrain, C. R. Drake, J. F. "Harvard Eddie" Mahan, G. B. Conger, Roswell Higgin, Scott "Lumberfoot" Alexander, A. S. Vandervoort Jr., John Pierce, J. N. Askey, Carruthers, Davis, Drake, Harrison, Martin, Scudder, H. B. Wier, and Harrison.

Only once before have the Aggies had such an impressive year on the gridiron. In 1917 the Aggies powered their way to the Southwest Conference Championship and

A&M	28	San Marcos	0
A&M	77	Sam Houston	0
A&M	16	SMU	0
A&M	12	Howard Payne	0
A&M	42	Trinity U.	0
A&M	28	Oklahoma	0
A&M	10	Baylor	0
A&M	48	TCU	0
A&M	7	Southwestern	0
A&M	7	Texas U.	0
Totals	275		0

Athletic Council Fails To Recognize Tennis

March 6, 1907—Prof. Campbell states that the Athletic Council has not yet recognized tennis as a branch of Athletics under their supervision. The Council, however, has not had a meeting this year to consider tennis; and it is probable that they will soon list it as one of the regular college sports.

Captain Sargent has agreed to excuse the six best tennis players from drill and retreat, so that they may play every morning. It is expected that a team will be sent to Waco.

W. J. Bryan Kissed

The Battalion, Oct. 28, 1908—(Details: New York) When W. J. Bryan entered the Astor gallery at the reception of the Women's Democratic club at the Waldorf-Astoria Monday he was kissed by two women in the presence of nearly 700 others and narrowly escaped the embraces of a third. Mrs. Bryan was present. Mr. Bryan displayed some embarrassment.

First A&M Football Team



piled up 270 points to opponents 0. Many sports writers said that there would never be another team like the 1917 eleven. They have been proven wrong already, so it is left up to you—Will the Aggies or anyone else be able to surpass the records set by the Fighting Aggie Football Teams of 1917-1919?

Anniversary Edition

The Battalion

Thurs., Nov. 9, 1950

Sports Section

D. X. Bible Returns Home From France

April 2, 1919—The recent news that D. X. Bible has returned to the U. S. from France will cause no little perturbation in the rival football camps of the Southwest. Coach Bible is one of the most popular men who ever handled an A&M squad and Farmer supporters and students are earnestly hoping for his early arrival.

Next year will see several new faces when the football season drifts in. News comes that "Woodrow" Wilson, Captain elect of the '18 squad and an all-Southwestern guard will be back with his 220 pounds of Aggie pep.

Horses, and many of them, could not keep "Eddie" Mahan, star fullback away, and there is some rumor of the return of McMurray and Griesenbeck. Enough of this year's team is slated to return to give the Farmers a top-notch eleven, and if there is any staff of coaches in the country "D. X." is especially remembered as having produced what was probably the most remarkable football team ever seen in the Southwest, the 1917 unscathed upon Champions.

With Bible to tutor the backfield and Coach Graves to produce his usual impregnable line the next year's team will not fall through any lack of coaching.

Among the members of the 1924 football team were Mule Wilson and Barlow "Jones" Irvin; the first man on the left is unknown but is also a member of the same team. Irvin is now the Athletic Director of A&M.

Choices From '08 to '48 . . .

A&M Football Games

Nov. 4, 1908—On Saturday afternoon before a large crowd of T.C.U. students, Baylor boys and people from Waco, on the University Campus, Texas Christian University met their second defeat this season. Contrary to the natural order of things, for T.C.U. beat Baylor and Baylor beat A&M, A&M won the game by a score of 13 to 0. From start to finish the game was hotly contested and there was not a moment of monotony during the whole time. The field was level and the weather fine. . . . From 14 minutes after 4 o'clock till ten minutes after 6, with a few minutes between halves, the game was carried on and when time was called for the last time it was almost too dark to play.

Down TU Twice

Clark Field, Austin, Texas, Dec. 5, 1909—Texas A&M defeated the University of Texas for the second time this season today before the largest crowd in the history of Clark Field. A&M won the contest 5 to 0 scoring on a pass from Louie Hamilton to "Choc" Kelly.

Varsity won the toss and elected to play with their backs to the wind. The first half was thrill-packed but resulted in no score. Near the close of the half Hamilton took the ball on his own 20 yard line and made a run of 90 yards

only to have it brought back because he had stepped out of bounds. Varsity kicked off to A&M to start the second half and forced a punt. However, A&M recovered the punt and on the next play, Mike Balenti, A&M halfback, made a forty yard run that set up the ball on the Varsity 10 yard line, to set the stage for Hamilton's game-winning toss.

The A&M line with C. E. "Doggie" Ward and William Corlin at ends, George Barnes and Rorer Hooker at tackles, W. A. McDonald and Caesar "Dutch" Hohn at guards, and T. E. Thompson at center, held the Varsity to a standstill on the ground. A&M's crackerjack backfield led by the redoubtable Hamilton and Kelly and with Balenti and Dan Ruzel soundly outplayed the vaunted Varsity starters.

Credit must be given to A&M coach "Uncle Charley" Moran whose brilliantly coached team, besides its two victories over Varsity, went through the season undefeated, scoring 130 points compared to 11 for the opposition and have only an early season tie with TCU to mar the otherwise perfect record. In compiling this record A&M holds decisions over Austin College, Haskell Institute, Baylor, Holy Trinity, and Oklahoma University.

Aggs Capture No. 4

Dec. 7, 1925—The solemn oath, "Heaven, Hell, or a Championship," taken by every member of the A&M student body on College Night of 1925 has held spirits high through the hectic football season, and the Aggies now boast another Southwest Conference Championship.

Conference championships are nothing new to the Aggies or to Coach D. X. Bible, who has led the Farmers to four such championships in his years of college football leadership.

The 1925 season produced football stars who will rank with those of bygone days, for there were four men whose names appeared on the Mythical Eleven with the immortal Damsky as Captain, while two others were given All-Conference mention. Along with Damsky, All-Southwest guard, were: Captain Wilson, All-Southwest Fullback; Captain-Elect Dieterich, All-Southwest Tackle; Hunt, All-Southwest Halfback; Beutel, end, All-Southwest Mention; and Berry, quarterback, All-Southwest Mention. Backing these Aggies were the remaining greats of the '25 team; Kishi, halfback; Irwin, tackle; McGuire, halfback; Ochterbeck, guard; Speed, guard; Price, (See HUNT, Page 7)

A&M Football Bowl Teams

Dallas, Jan. 2, 1922—Had Walter Camp been here today he would have witnessed his mythical All-American eleven, in the form of the Texas Aggies, defeat the "Praying Colonels" from Center by a score of 22 to 14. This test on the gridiron marked the climax to a hard fought season in which A&M emerged the victors of football in the South.

September came, and with it

came football. At Texas A&M Coach Dana X. Bible and his very able assistant C. J. Rothgeb were faced with the lack of experienced men. Among those who played on former Aggie teams were Murrain, Carruthers, and Dieterich who could ably fill the center portion of any line while Wilson and Smith stood out at the end positions.

Calling signals was Morris who was joined by Weir and Sanders at the halves. This sparsely populated backfield was supplemented by returning Freshmen from last year's team and a sizeable number of prospects from all-company teams.

The lack of experience on this Aggie team was balanced with the brilliant coaching of Bible and the Aggie spirit and determination.

A&M 14, Tulane 13

College Station, Jan. 6, 1940—It was before some 73,000 yelling, howling, gayly dressed, football-hungry fans that the Texas Aggies kept their undefeated and untied record clean by defeating a great Tulane team 14 to 13 in the Sugar Bowl classic, the now number one bowl game of the world.

The visitor left the Aggies with undisputed possession of the title "National Champions."

It was John Kimbrough, the greatest fullback that has ever pulled on a cleated shoe, who crossed the Tulane goal twice, and it was Walemon Price, playing his last and greatest game, who coolly stood back and booted two perfect extra points; but it was the entire Aggie squad that helped make this possible. It was little Herb Smith who swept in and blocked the last try for conversion by Tulane, a feat that may have won the game. Tulane had a great team and a worthy team. They played the Aggies the best game of the year, but they were playing a team that refused to be beaten and with that they had two strikes against them before they started.

A&M 13, Fordham 12

Dallas, Jan. 4, 1941—Closing many great football careers and two seasons of record breaking ball for a Southwest Conference team, the Texas Aggies Wednesday turned back the Fordham Rams, 13 to 12, in the fifth annual Cotton Bowl classic.

Throughout the first half of the game the Aggies were playing defensive ball and were forced to play hard to stop the attack of the Rams. With floating passes the Eastern team threatened large

gains time and again.

Late in the second quarter the Rams worked their way deep into Aggie territory and when passes failed to click, the old statue of liberty play was called on for the try. Noble took the hand off and raced far around his left end and down the side line. Conatser charged over from out of nowhere and threw a block on Noble that will long be remembered by those sitting close to the play.

A&M 21, Alabama 29

Dallas, Jan. 1, 1942—The Texas Aggies returned to the Cotton Bowl as hosts to the University of Alabama, and with them returned football fans from far and near to see one of the finest games ever played in the Cotton Bowl. The Aggies played a catch-up game all the way to the end and had there been more time the results might easily have been in favor of the Aggies, as it was the Aggies ended up on the short end of a 29 to 21 score.

A&M 14, LSU 19

Miami, Florida, Jan. 1, 1944—Too much Van Buren and the loss of Marion Flannagan to the Aggies proved the difference here today as the Tigers from L.S.U. defeated the Aggies by a hard-earned score of 19 to 14.

New Rules Are Very Unpopular

Oct. 17, 1906—In reading the accounts of many of the northern games, one is impressed with the fact that the new rules are decidedly unpopular. Every player seems to have a pet grievance; the backs because hurdling is abolished and line bucking practically so, for it is not often profitable to waste, by hitting the line, a chance of making a good end run; the ends, because their work has been made harder and they claim, more dangerous. It is up to them to stop nearly all the plays, and the frequent punting also adds to their work. The linemen, too, say that, owing to the distance between the scrimmage lines, it is harder to hold their men. However, it may be that as the new game becomes better understood, more may be gotten out of it than out of the old-style play. But we certainly used to enjoy seeing the guards carry a whole team along in the old guards back play.

All Hail King Football—A&M

