

Bell Cuts Aggie Baseball Squad Before SWC Opener

A&M's baseball team gets its final retouching today before its conference opener with Rice Friday and Saturday at Houston. Coach Beau Bell plans to cut about 10 players off his present 35 man squad. "We just have too many men on the team to work efficiently," Bell said, "and with the conference season

coming up we need to give our best players all the attention." Lefty Joe Hardgrove and righthander Jerry Nelson are Bell's mound choices for the Rice series. Hardgrove, sporting a 1-0 record so far this season, takes the hill Friday afternoon and Nelson, 1-2, Saturday.

Leftfielder Les Byrd's batting average dropped slightly in the Aggies loss to New Orleans, but he still leads the team in hitting with a re-sounding .381 average.

Little Fred Ablon ranks behind Byrd with a .312 mark, collecting five hits in 16 trips to the plate. Dick Munday, sophomore righthander, leads A&M's fine

array of hurlers with a 2-0 record. Wendell Baker, another sophomore, has a 1-0 record. The Owls, cellar dwellers in the conference last season,

showed little hopes of bettering their position this year in dropping their two games to Oklahoma A&M at Houston, 17-1 and 13-4 this week. Rice committed 21 errors in the

two-sided contests. "I hope they saved a few errors for us," said Bell, "but we're going to have to get some base hits if we do any good in the conference."

Handball Team To Play In Austin

Following a 5-2 victory over SMU in Dallas last week, the A&M handball team competes in a four-team tourney in Austin Saturday and Sunday. Rice, Southwest Texas State and University of Texas are also due to enter competition, to be staged at Gregory gym. Doubles play is set for Saturday, singles for Sunday.

Last week, the Aggies swept the two doubles matches from the Mustangs and won three of five singles. Results were:

Singles—Jim Mathis, A&M, defeated Marlon Reynolds, 21-19, 21-8; Gary Leslie, A&M, downed Ernie Speaks, 21-8, 21-8; Charlie Johnson, A&M, beat Charles Holland, 21-12, 21-15; Dan Galvin, SMU, defeated John Johnson, 21-10, 12-21, 21-18; Chuck Little, SMU, defeated H. R. Patterson, 21-15, 21-12.

Doubles—Leslie and Charlie Johnson outscored Speaks and Frank LaBarba, 21-16, 21-15; John Johnson and Mathis defeated Perry Fensterburch and Jay Herdine, 21-4, 21-11.

'Mural Highlights

Tom Durdin and Jim Miller collected nine hits between them yesterday to lead squadron 2 to a 26-0 softball rout of A signal corps in upperclassmen play.

Dardin got five hits, Miller four. Squadron 15 edged A quartermaster corps, 13-12, in a hitting contest, and squadron 11 blasted maroon band, 15-3. C armor blanketed A armor, 4-0, B infantry defeated B armor, 10-1.

Leggett hall easily downed Milner, 11-0, and squadron 10 tied A chemical corps, 4-4.

In freshman softball, B infantry downed squadron 2, 11-8, A ordinance edged B infantry, 4-3, squadron 11 whipped maroon band, 8-3, and squadron 12 beat white band, 8-3.

FROM CHRISTOVAL, TEXAS

JACK PARDEE

TEXAS A&M

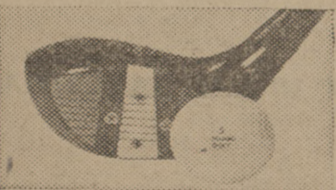
A HARD RUNNING BACK—JACK STANDS 6'2", WEIGH'S 200 LBS.

PLAYS END AS WELL AS AT HALF OR FULL

ONLY A JR. NEXT YEAR—JACK IS GOING TO BE ONE OF THE AGGIES' BIG GUNS ON A YOUNG TEAM.

JIM EARLE 1-55

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