

# Ags Open Baylor Series Today

## Three SWC Victories

**JOE HARDGROVE**

A SENIOR, JOE WILL BE ONE OF THE LEADING PITCHERS IN THE S.W.C. THIS SEASON.

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### Soccer Team Beats Ellington AFB

The Aggie soccer team defeated the Ellington air force base team 10-0 last Sunday.

A&M leads the league with a 5-2 record. Their two defeats were by Ellington AFB and the University of Houston. A&M is followed

in the league by Bryan AFB, Ellington, Allen academy, and Houston in that order.

The soccer team has one remaining league game which will be with Allen academy Sunday.

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### Bell Picks Munday, Hardgrove to Pitch

By RONNIE GREATHOUSE  
Battalion Sports Staff

A&M opens an important two-game series with Baylor at Waco today that could make or break the Aggies chances in the race for the conference crown.

"I believe we can take them," said Coach Beau Bell, "that's what we're going up to Waco for."

Work-horse Joe Hardgrove and righthander Dick Munday are Bell's choices for starting roles in the Bruin series. Hardgrove will probably go against Baylor's ace, Freddie Gottlieb, tomorrow, with Munday holding down the hill for A&M today.

Munday goes into today's contest with a 3-0 season record, having pitched 33 innings and given up only three earned runs. He has a .8 earned run average.

Hardgrove, A&M's leading pitcher with a 4-0 record, has hurled 44 innings, struck out 38 and given up four earned runs. He has taken credit for three of the Cadets' four conference wins.

Big Jerry Nelson sports a 2-4 record. He has pitched 39 innings, striking out 37 and hanging up a 5.4 earned run average.

Jack Goodwyn of Matt Miller will get the starting assignment for Baylor in today's contest.

A&M batters are clubbing the ball at a healthy .296 in conference games, collecting 39 runs on 54 hits. The Aggies had produced only 27 runs and 44 hits at this same time last season.

A key factor in the Cadets' success so far in the SWC season has been the steady rise of batting averages since entering the race.

Leader Joe Schero is batting .500 in conference action and .345 over the season. He was swinging a mere .184 through the first four games of the year.

Shortstop Dick Bleckner is also hitting .500 in SWC play, and has hoisted his season average to .277. He was hitting .095 through the first nine games.

Les Byrd has a .304 season mark, and a .391 slugging average. Catcher Jimmy Williams jumped his average 45 points in the Texas series last week to .243.

Today's probable starting line-ups are:

Baylor	A&M
Dykeman, ss.....	Ablon, rf
Anderson, 3b.....	Stockton, cf
Connally, lf.....	Byrd, lf
Freeman, 1b.....	Schero, 3b
Lucas, rf.....	Williams, c
Mallett, c.....	Bleckner, ss
Haney, 2b.....	Boring, 2b
Liston, cf.....	Hoyle, 1b
Goodwyn, p.....	Munday, p

### Fish Meet Rice, Baylor

Still looking for their first victory of the season after dropping four straight, the Fish baseball team meets the Rice Owlets here at 3 p.m. today at the Kyle field diamond.

The Freshmen also play Baylor's Cubs here at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

Coach Les Palmer has chosen Pinkey Cooner to start the Owlet game, postponed from last week because of rain. Cam Castleman will divide mound duty with Cooner.

Toby Newton will start in against the Cubs, who beat the Fish 9-2 at Waco in the season opener. Newton struck out 16 in 7 1/2 innings in that game.

Right fielder Ed Dudley leads freshmen hitting with a .667 mark, posted on 6 hits in 9 tries. He has two doubles, a triple and four RBI's, though playing only two games.

Second baseman Carlos Ecquival has 4 for 8, third baseman Gordon Maxwell 5 for 16.

### Imel To Hurl For Softballers

Windy Imel takes the mound for the Aggie softball team here tomorrow night when the Cadets meet Lake Jackson in a double-header. The first game starts at 8 p.m.

A&M tries to get over the .500 mark after splitting its first eight games.

Bob Thorpe, rookie pitcher for the Chicago Cubs was named prep athlete of the year for southern California in 1952.

# Cagers End Drills Today

A&M's 1955-56 basketball team closes out spring drills today after a one-hour workout yesterday.

Jerry Claiborne, assistant football coach, is handling the squad for Coach Ken Loeffler, who went back East Sunday to settle moving details, possibly pick a regular assistant coach and fulfill his teaching contract at LaSalle, due to run until June 1.

Next season's cagers open play with Tulsa, Memphis State and Vanderbilt on the road.

The others on the schedule are: University of Houston (two), Oklahoma City university, Tulane, LSU (two), Stephen F. Austin (tentative), the annual Southwest conference pre-season tournament, and the 12 conference games.

Yesterday, the first pair of

teams had Bill Brophy, George Me- Wilson, John Lesikar, Bob Gattis, haffey, Don Bilbrey, Jeff Penfield John Henry and George Kelle on and John Fortenberry on one, Doak the other.

### Aggie Golfers Fall to NTS, Meet Texas

North Texas state beat A&M 6-1 yesterday in a non-conference golf match on the Aggie course. The Cadets, 3-0 in SWC play and now 4-5-1 over the season, meet University of Texas, also 3-0, here Saturday afternoon.

Aggie sophomore Jerry Durbin and North Texas State's A. J. Triggs shot 69's for medalist honors as they halved their match. David Vandervoort, A&M, halved with Max Wilkinson for the other Aggie points.

Ray Ferguson, NTS, defeated Bobby Briggs, A&M, 2 and 1 in the leadoff match. Benny Castloo downed Cadet Marcelino Moreno, 4 and 3, and Tom Reed defeated A&M's Tommy Cox, 6 and 5, in other matches.

Veteran outfielder Del Ennis and rookie pitcher John Meyer of the Phillies are the only members of the team born in Philadelphia.

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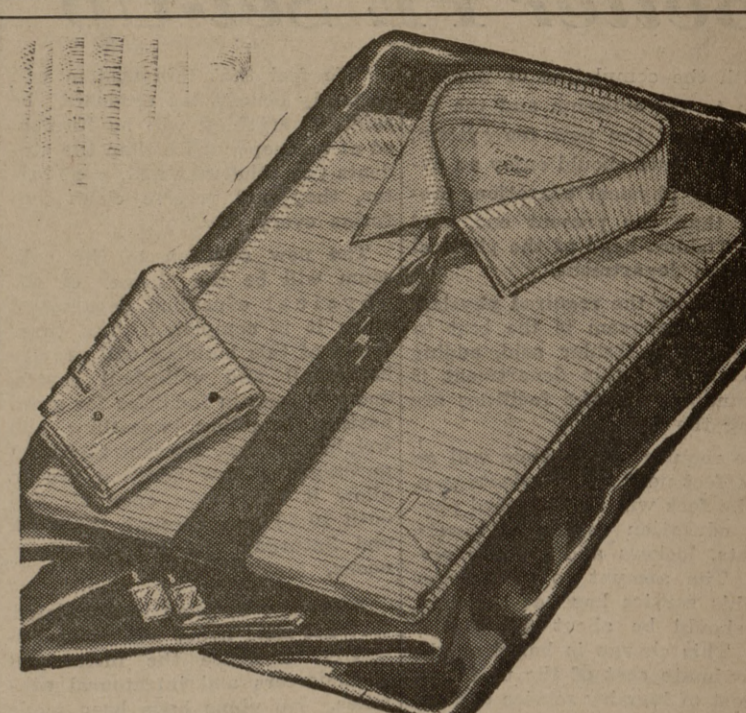
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### Interviews

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