

'The Bryant Way'

A&M Footballers Defensive Minded

By LUTHER HALL and BOB CLENDENNEN
 You've probably read newspaper stories about how much Coach Bryant stresses defense, and maybe you've wondered why. On the sports pages it's always the offense that wins the ballgame, but there are actually more chances to score on defense than on the attack.

Here are at least seven ways the defense can win a ballgame: (1) Good, hard gang tackling to cause opponent fumbles, (2) Deflecting or intercepting an opposing quarterback's pitchout, (3) A hard charging line can make the quarterback throw the ball high and set up a possible pass interception (4) Blocking a punt, (5) An "on-sides" kick, or short kick-off, where an alert defense covers the ball, (6) Blocking a field goal try and (7) Gang tackling a punt or pass receiver and causing him to fumble.

THESE ALL SEEM elementary, but with Coach Bryant they're the end result of constant drilling—not luck. As you remember we won several ballgames last fall using these defensive maneuvers, such as that on-sides kick-off recovery against Rice that set up our winning TD.

Many people are amazed by our ability to get downfield quickly under punts, but here again it's "practice that makes perfect." We work on covering the punt constantly. Our punters line up about 13-yards behind the line of scrimmage and have about two seconds to boot the ball. Only 2.6 seconds elapses between the time the ball leaves the centers' hands and the time the punter gets his kick away.

Wrestling Team Host In Tourney

A&M's unbeaten wrestling team will be host at the Southwest Collegiate Wrestling Tourney Saturday from 1-7 p. m. Six teams are entered in the meet, including the University of Texas, Houston, Baylor, Rice and A&M's varsity and Fish squads.

WHEN A PUNT receiver knows we're going to be breathing down his neck, it sometimes makes him a little nervous. The average for punts returned against us last fall was only three yards.

The art of "quick-change" is another thing Coach Bryant is stressing this Spring. That is, the ability of the player to react to a sudden change from defense to offense, such as on an intercepted pass.



HOLD THAT TIGER!—Aggie gridders mix it up in spring practice. The Cadets have only two more days of workouts remaining.

Okamoto Swims Today

SWC Tankers Tangle

By BARRY HART
 Assistant Sports Editor
 Tetsuo Okamoto opens A&M's bid for the Southwest Conference swimming crown at Austin today in his specialty, the 1500-meters.

The conference has voted to lift the post-season probation on Coach Art Adamson's fin men and allow them to enter a team in the NCAA finals in New Haven, Conn., March 28-30 should they win the title.

A&M hopes to break their 10-year title drought and break into Texas' monopoly in the splash sport. The Aggies' only outright championship came in 1945 and they shared a crown with the Longhorns in 1944. SMU is the only other team to ever capture the honors in the 24 years it has been on the SWC calendar, winning in 1953 and 1954.

Okamoto hits the water at 7:30

tonight in the first race of the meet. The sophomore sensation from Sao Paulo, Brazil took third in the 1952 Olympic 1500-meters and will be favored. There will be no preliminaries in the 1500, with the six best times getting the point positions.

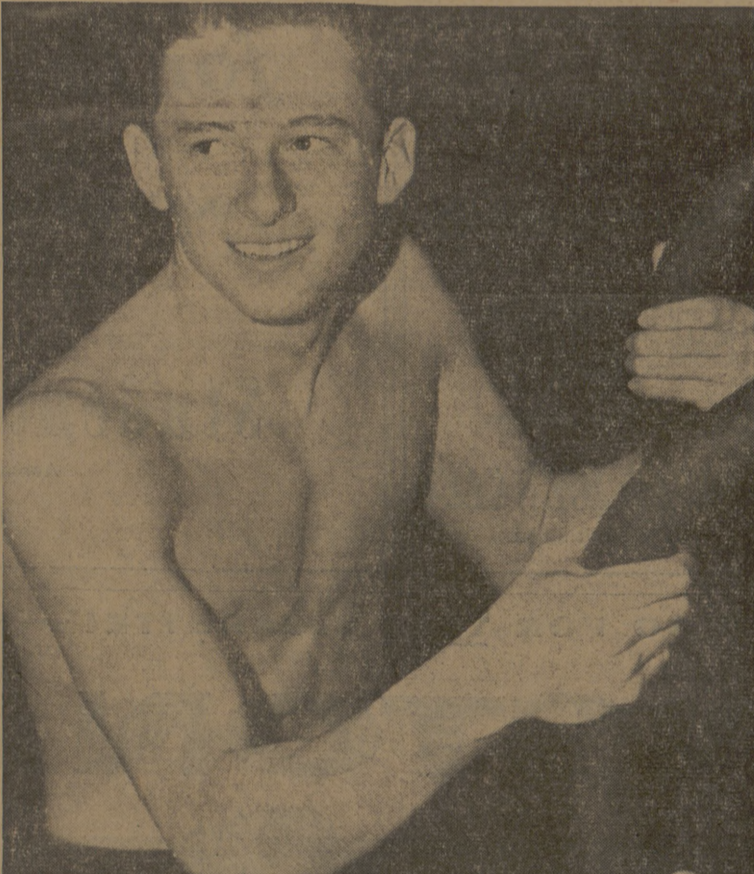
The Aggies have splashed to nine straight victories so far this season. They downed all three of their SWC opponents, Texas, SMU and Rice in dual meets and swam to the title in the conference relays. A&M was in the same undefeated situation a year ago, only to lose to Texas in the meet that counted.

The Aggies return five conference champions from the 1955

meet. Dick Hunkler won the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events. Dick Weick took first in the 200 breaststroke and the 200-yard individual medley and Norman Ufer captured the 100-yard backstroke.

Weick holds three conference records—the 100-yard butterfly, the 200-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard individual medley. A senior, this will be his final SWC meet for the Maroon and White.

The Aggies pin part of their sprint hopes on Peru's Jose Merino, who successfully defended his South American 100-meter freestyle championship recently and holds that continent's record in the event.



RECORD HOLDER—Dick Weick holds three Southwest Conference swimming records including the 100-yard butterfly, 200-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard individual medley. A senior, Weick hails from College Station. The SWC meet opens today at Austin.

Ag Tracksters Meet UT, Rice in Houston

A&M's tracksters will be looking for their first meet victory of the young season Saturday when they challenge Rice and the University of Texas in Houston.

The Aggie Fish will battle the Rice Slimes as Texas' Shorthorns will bypass this one to run in the big Fort Worth meet.

Coach Frank Anderson will be

counting on the muscles of weight men Bobby Gross, Tom Bonorden, Herman Johnson and Harry Cox and pole vaulters Winton Thomas, James Clark and Jim Jackson to counteract the sprinter-laden Longhorn Crew.

The Aggie mile relay team of Eddie Bussa, Bill Holloway, Bob McKnight and Johnny Roberts beat Texas in the Laredo meet.

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