

EVANSTON, Ill.—(P)—San Francisco's Dons shoot for their 54th straight victory tonight against SMU's Mustangs in the final phase of the NCAA basketball championships.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—(P)—Mickey Mantle continued his extraordinary distance hitting yesterday to lead the New York Yankees to a 9-5 exhibition victory over the Kansas City Athletics.

# A&M Nine Opens Loop Action Here Saturday

By RONNIE GREATHOUSE  
Battalion Sports Editor

A&M opens its 41st Southwest Conference baseball season here Saturday against SMU, and if past scores are any criteria, this should be one of the most exciting games of the season.

Coach Beau Bell's Aggies nipped the Ponies three times last year and all three games were decided by a single run, two of them going 11 innings. SMU was runner-up to the SWC champion Aggies last year.

SMU's undefeated Mustangs come into Saturday's game sporting the conference's most outstanding record, holding eight straight wins over non-conference oppo-

ents. The Aggies rank next to the Dallas team in season standings with a 4-2 record.

The two teams have a common opponent this season in Sam Houston, and both hold victories over the Bearkats. SMU eased by the 'Kats, 2-1 and 2-0, this week while A&M downed them 6-3 and 4-1 earlier in the season.

Both clubs have suffered player losses since the final out last season, with the Aggies being hit the hardest. Coach Bell is missing eight baseballers from last year's team, including three all-conference performers.

SMU Coach Alex Hooks lost his

1-2 pitching combination of all-SWC Tommy Bowers and Ernie Proud. Bowers is now a regular moundsman with the pro-Dallas Eagles. Three Aggie graduates, pitchers Joe Hardgrove and Jerry Nelson and catcher Jimmy Williams signed with pro ball clubs also.

Team	W	L	Pct.	R	Op.
Southern Methodist	8	0	1.000	44	19
Texas A&M	4	2	.667	33	27
Texas	2	2	.500	22	22
Baylor	3	4	.429	41	61
Texas Christian	2	4	.333	28	33
Rice	0	1	.000	0	3

**THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE**  
Thursday—Carswell Air Force Base at TCU; Minnesota at Rice.  
SATURDAY—Baylor at TCU; Rice at Texas; SMU at A&M.

# Sqd. 2 Trounces Sqd. 20 In Upperclassman Softball

By JOE DAN BOYD  
Intramural Sports Writer

Steve Long and Larry McLendon crossed home plate twice for Sqd. 2 in an 11-2 trouncing of Sqd. 20 yesterday. J. B. McLeroy, ace pitcher for the upperclassman defending champions, hurled a magnificent game, allowing ten hits all afternoon. McLeroy also got on base twice, and scored once.

Tom McLaughlin and Jim Porter tallied the two lone scores for Sqd. 20. Tom Norton and Lynn Pixley were other outstanding Sqd. 2 fielders.

College View "B" blanked Law Hall in civilian softball as Wayne Woolsey powered two home runs, pacing the 9-0 shutout. Nolan Gotcher, J. Carson, and Joseph Bell were other scorers for the thumping College View nine.

Gotcher chalked up two runs while Carson, Bell, Roger Cozart, William Green, and Dee Mifflin

completed scoring, each circling the diamond once.

Squadron 4 edged Sqd. 19, 7-5, in an upperclassman softball tilt. Tom Speed and Rick Andrews each crossed home plate twice and John Kirkpatrick, Jack Pearson, and Don Dierschke added one each for the winning squadron.

In other softball games White Band turned back B-Armor, 14-0, Hart downed Milner, 3-0, Sqd. 15 defeated Sqd. 18, 9-6 and B-AAA edged B-Composite, 13-10. B-Engineers dropped Sqd. 16, 14-11, Sqd. 19 defeated Sqd. 11, 6-2, and Sqd. 8 routed Sqd. 12, 8-0.



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BARNEY WELCH, A&M INTRAMURAL DIRECTOR

# Former Grid Star Heads Ag Murals

By BARRY HART  
Assistant Sports Editor

Once the leader of A&M football teams, Barney Welch now directs one of the largest intramural athletic programs in the world.

"We took a survey last fall that indicated 78 per cent of the students enter into at least one sport" said Welch. "I'm sure we have the largest percentage of students competing in our program of any school in the world."

Welch, captain of the Aggie team in 1947, holds the distinction of being the first Aggie to ever cross the goal line against the University of Texas in Memorial Stadium. As a sophomore, Barney scored A&M's only touchdown on

Thanksgiving day, 1942, as the Cadets fell before Texas, 13-6.

World War II put a slight delay into Barney's college football career, however, with 20 months in the European action, including the Battle of the Bulge and three battle stars, between football seasons.

Oddly enough, Welch never participated in intramural sports as an undergraduate at A&M.

"Playing football never gave me much of a chance to enter into the intramural program," said Barney, "and even after the season was over I devoted my spare time to my wife and young son."

Welch and his wife, Jane, were married in 1943 while Barney was (See GRID STAR, Page 5)

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