

# Era Ends as Col. Andy Plans '57 Retirement

BY JONES RAMSEY  
 An era that has spanned three world wars, 10 Olympiads and produced nine Southwest Conferences track and field championships will come to a close in the summer of 1957 when Frank Anderson calls it quits as Aggie track coach after serving since 1920.

Col. Andy as he is known by hundreds of his former pupils and thousands of track admirers the world over will step down after the 1956-57 school year. He has been connected with A&M for 36 years—24 of them as track coach. Col. Andy's budding experience in track came in a high school track

meet at Knoxville, Tenn., in 1912 where he won the pole vault for his Sparta, Tenn., team. His experience will end in 1957 after the close of the June national meets for his Aggies.

As one of the official coaches for the United States Olympic team, Col. Andy will make the trip to Melbourne, Australia for the 1956 games. His duties will be to handle the jumpers and hammer throwers.

"Nobody seemed to want to fool with the hammer throwers," the little coach says, "but I volunteered because I have just one more year before retiring and besides you don't do much coaching with these boys—just keep them in condition."

**THE VETERAN COACH** who served as a major in World War I and as a colonel in WW II—both in field artillery—has coached A&M track in two sections. He first became the thincad mentor in 1920 and won a conference title that first year. He coached for 14 years winning again in 1929 and 1930 and then resigned to become dean of men and commandant of the Aggie Corps of Cadets. Following that assignment he served in WWII and resumed coaching in 1947 for a period that will be 11 years with retirement in 1957.

It was during that post-war tenure that Col. Andy really dominated Southwest conference track. His teams won the flag in 1947-7-9, again in 1951-2-3. And he has won these nine titles without the high-pressure proselyting tactics so common with collegiate athletics today.

**HIS PREFERENCE** for coaching "amateurs" and his success at the job would be welcomed by the present followers of the amateur code and oath in connection with the 1956 Olympic team. Anderson gets his talent from the 100 boys who fill every locker in



ART ADAMSON—A&M head swimming coach. Adamson's 1955-56 team captured the SWC splash crown with a record-breaking 142 points.

the Aggie track dressing room each year and the only boys receiving financial aid in the form of part scholarships are those who win points in the conference meet.

Darrow Hooper, A&M's great shot putter of the early fifties and a second place winner in the 1952 Olympics is the last Aggie track man to receive a full scholarship on entering A&M. Others have been offered one since but turned it down to go elsewhere.

"I don't believe in going out and recruiting high school stars and giving them a four-year ticket through A&M when I have boys on my squad who have developed to where their times are as good as the the high school performers," he has said numerous times.

"I would split my team wide open if I used my scholarships to bring in high school boys while men on my travelling squad are paying most of their own way though college."

After retirement, Col. Andy wants to stick around Aggieland and help the new coach run off his meets. "I may be a starter or some other official," he declared.

## Football

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first team job, and Galveston's G. F. Alsbrook is the picture-type played, skillful and sure, a strong hand on defense and a fine receiver.

King Hill and Frank Ryan are a fine one-two punch at quarterback. Fullbacks Jack Throckmorton and Jerry Hall, both seniors who have never really come through as they had been expected, will be pushed by Dick Berg-

## A Way of Life

# Adamson Devoted To Ag Swimmers

By ROY CARPENTER  
 Swimming may be considered a minor sport by some, but to Art Adamson, head coach of the Aggie swimming team, it is not only a major sport but also a way of life.

Having swum since he was seven, Adamson spends an average of 12 hours a day at the P. L. Downs Natatorium. This devotion to his job has paid handsome dividends, for last March the Aggie swimmers climaxed an undefeated season by winning the SWC championship for the second time under Adamson's leadership.

Coach Adamson says, "A boy may want to swim, but it doesn't do any good if he does it wrong. That's where I come in."

trum and Soph Gene Jones.

The line couldn't be anything but better than the 1955 version with center and tackle in good hands. Don Gillis holds down the ball-snapping position line an anchor and Jean Barras, Charley Thompson, Ken Whitmire and Don Phillips are eyeing the tackles.

James Peters, James Briggs, Dave Mantor and Don Gee were regulars from time to time at the terminals and will be back doing the same thing in 1956.

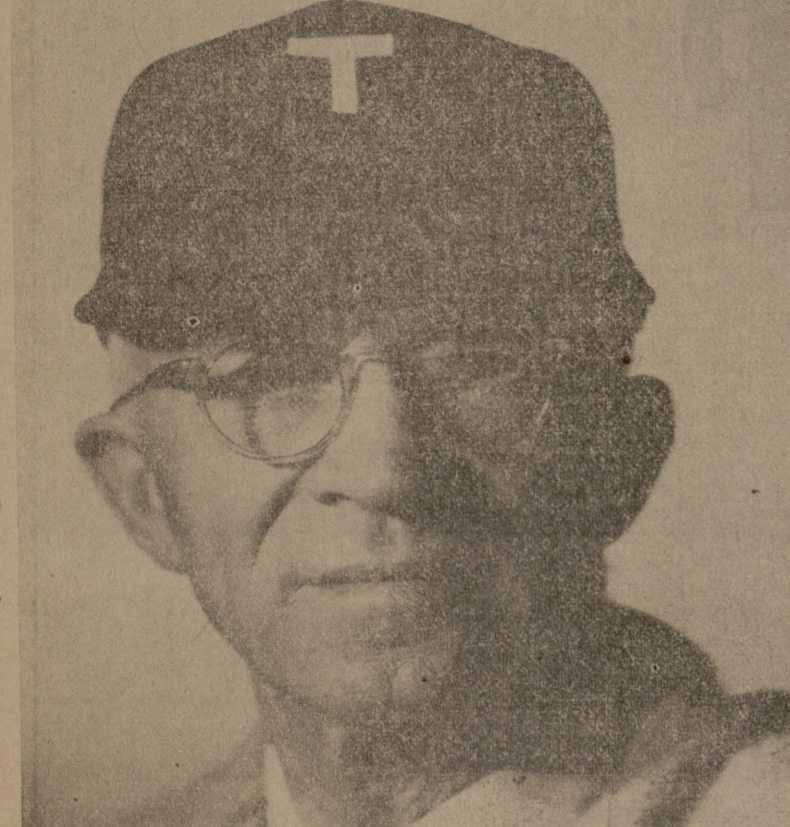
Adamson, who was born in England and became famous as a swimmer in New Zealand, is recognized as one of America's top swimming coaches. He is widely known for his ability to take a young swimmer and develop him into a star. Indeed, Jose Merino, free-style and backstroke star from Lima, Peru, came to A&M because his dad had heard of Adamson's coaching skill and wanted Jose to swim for him.

This represents a great advancement for Coach Adamson since he came to A&M in 1934 as a student as well as a coach.

With little formal schooling behind him, Adamson came to Aggieland determined to receive a college education. He worked his way through school by coaching the swimming team and now holds a Masters degree in physical education.

Throughout the school year in addition to his duties as coach, Adamson carries a full teaching load, being swimming instructor in the physical education classes.

During the summer Coach Adamson gives swimming lessons to children from Bryan and College Station. He is quite a favorite of the youngsters, who call him "Uncle Art."



FRANK (COL. ANDY) ANDERSON—Retiring Aggie track coach whose teams have won nine SWC track titles in 24 years.

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## Coaches

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A native Texan, Willie F. Zapalac, former Aggie star and professional player, is a backfield coach at A&M. A Bellville product Zapalac scored a record 245 points his senior year in high school, then came to Aggieland where he played varsity ball in 1941, 1942 and 1946.

Zapalac's last season at A&M came after serving 36 months in the air force. He reached the rank of captain. Willie played in the 1942 Cotton Bowl game, two East-West games in 1943 and 1947 and in two college All-Star games at Chicago—1943 and 1947.

After playing pro ball with the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1947, Zapalac coached at John Tarleton, Hillsboro and Arlington State before joining the Aggie staff in 1953. He is married and has three children—Billy, 8, Jeff, 7, and Jill, 4½.

A graduate of Sul Ross College, Tom Tipps, who works with Aggie centers, is one of the most successful high school coaches in Texas history. He joined the Aggie staff in 1954 after winning 54 of 71 games at Pama, Texas in the tough AAAA conference. Tipps teams lost but 16 and tied one in seven years.

He coached at Seagraves and Temple high schools before WW II. After 3½ years in the infantry he served at Dennison a year before moving to Pampa. Tipps is married and has two daughters, Melanie, 5 and Betsy Lynn, seven months.

A former star guard at Kentucky—Pat James—helps coach the aggie line, working with the guards. James played in the backfield at New Boston, Ohio high school but at Kentucky he was moved to guard by Coach Bryant.

James was a star of the 1951 Sugar Bowl conquest of Oklahoma. The 29-year-old James coached high school ball at Danville, Ky., in 1952 before joining Bryant at Kentucky. He is married and has a year old son, Michael Patrick.

## Aggies

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held down for two seasons and will be a top contender for all-conference recognition. Another senior—Lockhart's Dee Powell—who has lettered at both tackle and guard will be number two man behind Hale.

The end spots are capably manned by seniors Eugene (Bebes) Stallings, all-SWC in 1955, and Bobby Keith, but there's little to hope for past these two veterans.

Tackle looks strong with three returning lettermen plus some good sophomore prospects. Jack Powell and Charlie Krueger are back at their starting positions with letterman Bob Clendennon and squadman Bobby Lockett and A. L. Simmons back of them.

The front-line guards are adequate but there is no depth. Jim Stanley and Dennis Goehring are the returning regulars with Murray Trimble the only other letterman. Goehring, although light at 185, took all-SWC honors in 1955, while Stanley is described as the meanest man on the squad. Reserves are Tommy Howard, an all-conference freshman choice, Jim Langston and Harold Price.

The halfback situation, although showing six lettermen, is more critical than the experience reveals. John Crow is solid at left half and Loyd Taylor is far ahead on the other side. Crow is expected to have a much finer season than in 1955 and Taylor is the man who virtually won the Rice game by himself, scoring twice in 46 seconds.

The Aggies will be guided by tri-captains Pardee, Stallings and Hale, all seniors and two-year lettermen.

It should be another interesting, exciting SWC season with much of A&M's success depending on how much the younger players develop. We'll have to wait and see.

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