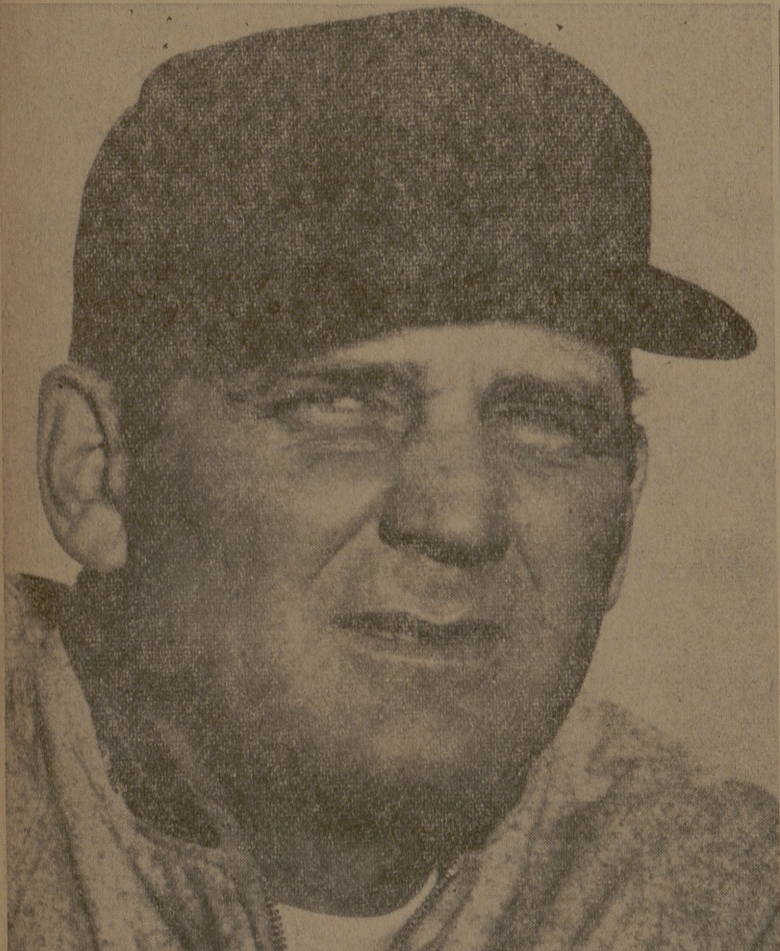


Aggies Picked Top Team In Southwest Conference



COACH PAUL "BEAR" BRYANT is aiming for a second SWC title this year for the Aggies. This will be his fourth year of leading the Aggies into and out of the stiff conference competition.

By GARY ROLLINS

Last Turkey Day, the Aggies wreaked havoc upon the hapless Texas Longhorns, destroying a myth and becoming Southwest Conference champions for the first time in 15 years.

This year the sportswriters have placed the Aggies on the spot, along with Baylor, and a repeat championship cannot be attained by looking at last year's laurels. If Texas A&M wins again, it will be purely because they worked for it and wanted to go to the Cotton Bowl.

Losses in the center of the line are great, and replacements are untried. An All-American fullback has graduated. Four top guards are gone and the center position is completely unmanned at this time. The six returning players are all wonderful players, and form the nucleus for our national recognition. Although the center of the line has been weakened, our tackle spots are in good shape, for an All-American inhabits one slot and replacements are many.

The terminals are in good condition, for returning material is already proven.

The backfield is the best in the conference.

To glimpse at the personnel, the co-captains are both All-American picks in John David Crow of Springhill, La., and Charley Krueger, of Caldwell, Tex.

John Crow is the pride of the Aggies, for he has proven himself

excellent material. As a senior, John will be slightly heavier, playing at 215. He is shifty, fast, big and has the desire to "hit people", which makes him a typical Bryant product.

Crow is one of the most bruising runners in college football. He plays defense like it was the end of the world, and blocks like every block could mean a touchdown. With breaks, he could be named the best back in the nation.

Charley Krueger is a large wheel in Aggie plans, for he, too, can hit people. Almost every preseason All-American selection has Krueger inhabiting one of the tackles.

Charley is a likable fellow, very quiet off the field, but his actions on the field speak louder than any sportscribe could ever describe.

He's been a thorn in the side of every school he has faced, and they've had to go elsewhere to make their yardage. Because of his cat-like ability to move, he ranged up and down the line of scrimmage causing considerable confusion and panic in the enemy camp.

The 20-year old senior is small in comparison with some line giants in the conference, but Bryant best explained it "He's just a boy—he's still growing!"

A&M only has these two All-Americans—so far.

An all-conference quarterback may be moved to fullback to give running power at that spot. The

caliber of boys playing in the Aggie backfield, such as Osborne, are able to shift to any spot and play well. Don Watson was proof of the theory of versatility.

To discuss the center situation first, take a look at the material there. John Gilbert, 200-pound senior from Russellville, Ark., has lettered two years behind Lloyd Hale. As an offensive center, John is almost on par with Hale, but defensively he is definitely not the linebacker Hale was. Desire could replace inexperience in John's place and Gilbert has a great deal of desire.

The guard picture is not quite as red-rimmed, for there are some former varsity players there; let-terms Jim Langston and Tommy Howard. Both boys played ball as guards last year, but depth is needed here in the delicate middle.

Darrell Brown, senior from Dayton, is a two-year letterman and may move to a first string guard slot soon after practice begins. Carl Luna, a holdout 195-pounder from Garland, is very strong and can perform anywhere in the line.

Sophs to be tried as guards are Joe Munson, 180, from Angleton; Buddy Payne, 195, from Houston Austin; and Bill Darwin, 215, from Houston Reagan who has played center up until now.

The tackles are needing little improvement, with Charley Krueger, seniors Jim Stanley of Lynch, Ky., and A. L. Simmons of San



KEN BECK, of Minden, La., will again step into the spotlight as a tackle for A&M. Beck is a junior BA major and weighs in at 220 lbs.

Antonio. Jim has the reputation of being one of the meanest football players in the nation, and if he lives up to expectations, his 205 pounds will cause a lot of trouble for the opposition.

Ken Beck is a big, 220-pounder from the bayou country of Minden, La. He lettered last year and played 31 quarters behind senior Bobby Jack Lockett. The only sophomore scheduled to be tried at tackle is Robert Garner, 200-pounder from Palestine.

The "old man" of the team represents the ends. He's John Trucey, 6-4, 200-pound end from Phil-

adelphia, Pa. John was all-conference material last season and has been nominated for possible national recognition. He's only a junior.

Seniors Bobby Marks and Don McClelland are two more representatives of Louisiana. Bobby is from New Orleans and Don is from (See AGGIES, Page 3)

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