

# SPORT SLANT S

By BOB WEEKLEY

What with one thing or another spring has finally stepped into the on-deck circle and should move into the batter's box in a couple of weeks, all of which means that spring sports are becoming more and more in style and should be the height of fashion by the end of March.

At A&M spring means the season when minor sports become major ones and baseball steps into the reigning spot of king, with track alongside as a prince consort.

Baseball, now swinging along under the expert tutelage of Coach Tom Chandler, has never received the proper recognition that is due the national sport by students at A&M.

A prime example would be Wednesday when only a few hardy souls braved the blustery weather to watch the Aggie nine come from behind to down the Texas Lutheran Bulldogs.

Now those who don't care about watching baseball just don't know what they are missing. There's more than just sitting in the bleachers and watching two teams go about their business of slinging a little white ball around a field.

A lot of the fun of the game comes in barbering the other teams and giving the old raspberry to the umpire. Most coaches and teams would be rather disappointed if there were no spectators on hand to give them the chance to go through the paces that they have spent many years developing.

Chandler is going to add a lot of color to the Aggie diamond this season. Wednesday when he charged out onto the diamond to protest a balk being called on Larry Ayres, the wind seemed to slow down a couple of knots while the issue was contested hotly by both sides, all to the immense enjoyment of the crowd.

Also the sport is perfect for the active spectator who likes to stand up and stretch, take a trip to the back for those peanuts whose hulls are so comfortable to sit on and shoot the bull with his neighbor on the pros and cons of the team.

The Aggies are going to be a better team than last year. Chandler has spent and is still spending a good portion of each day teaching his charges the fundamentals and rudiments of the game and they seem to be soaking them up in time for Southwest Conference play.

Texas will again be the team to beat this year for the conference flag, but TCU, SMU and A&M could be strong contenders for the money.

A&M's squad is composed largely of sophomores, but the returning veterans are enough to form a strong backbone. Ayres, the sophomore pitcher mentioned above, has come along very well and right now seems to be the top man on the pitching staff.

He was the first Aggie to go the full nine innings, and did very well during his stint on the mound.

## Aggie Nine Tackles Bulldogs As Lutherans Seek Revenge

Coach Tom Chandler's baseball team moves to Seguin tomorrow night for a return match with the Texas Lutheran Bulldogs. The Aggies Wednesday defeated the Lutherans by the score of 8-4.

Expected to be on the mound for the Cadets is righthander Percy Sanderson with senior Wayne Schaper and sophomore Joe Thompson warming up in the bullpen ready to lend assistance.

Chandler will start basically the same lineup that downed the Bulldogs earlier this week. The only

major change will be Dink Patterson, the quick-moving junior from Dallas, stepping into the second base slot.

Slugging Gary Herrington will be Sanderson's battery mate at the catcher's position while sophomore Dick Hickerson will hold forth at first base. Hickerson is the leading hitter on the squad with a .385 average.

Patterson will be at the key position teaming with Ralph Plumlee at shortstop. Plumlee is a returning starter from the 1958 team and hails from Dallas.

At third is all-Southwest Conference Windel Reed and in left field Byron Barber will stand tall. Filling out the rest of the outfield are Stuffy Davis and Lloyd Stone.

the better hurlers last season and expected to be a mainstay this season, has been hampered by a sore arm and won't be ready to take the mound until after conference play starts.

Meanwhile Chandler is still seeking some able batsmen to quell the opposing pitchers. Hickerson has come through more than enough while Herrington is his old reliable self. The senior co-captain led the team in about all departments last year.

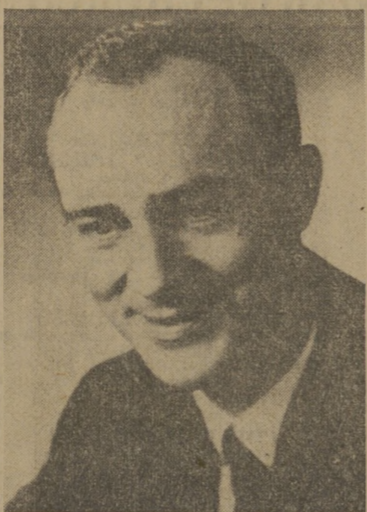
After Saturday's game the Ags will remain idle until March 18 when they face the University of Houston crew in Houston. A&M defeated that nine earlier in the season.

The frosh baseball team, coached by Shelby Metcalf, will not meet the Henderson Junior College Nine today in a two-game contest.

Henderson canceled the game for unknown reasons.

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TOM CHANDLER  
Baseball Coach

### Star Prep Athletes Sign Intent Letters

Two outstanding high school athletes have announced their intentions to attend A&M on athletic scholarships. The two prep school stars are Don Sanders and Tommy Janik.

Sanders, all-state and all-American end from Fort Worth Paschal, is scheduled to play in the high school all-star game at Fort Worth next August.

Janik, an all-district quarterback from Poth, led his team to a 20-1 record the past two seasons and to a regional championship in 1957.

The 6-3, 185-pounder, also played basketball and track.

### Ag Runners Enter Shreveport Relays

Eighteen members of the Aggie track and field team left here today for the South Classic Relays to be run Saturday in Shreveport, La. The Cadets are coached by Charley Thomas.

The Farmers will compete in six track and six field events at the relays.

Making the trip were Bob Clark, Ernie Uribe, Ronnie Kirkpatrick and Harvey Cash in the 440-yd relay; Olin Garrison, 120-yd high hurdles; Joe Flood, 100-yd dash; Dick Hickman, mile run; John Long and Newton Lamb, Javelin; Owen Hill, Discus; Henry Bonorden and Charles Davidoff, shot put; Charles Merka and Bob Thomas, high jump and Jerry Davis, Donnie Douglas or Ray Vance, pole vault.

Not included on the list above are William Palmer, a member of the 880-yd relay; Harvey Cash and C. J. Hajovsky, members of the mile relay team and Jim Brewer in the Javelin.

The Aggies have competed in two meets this year, placing second in a triangular meet at College Station and seventh in the Border Olympics.

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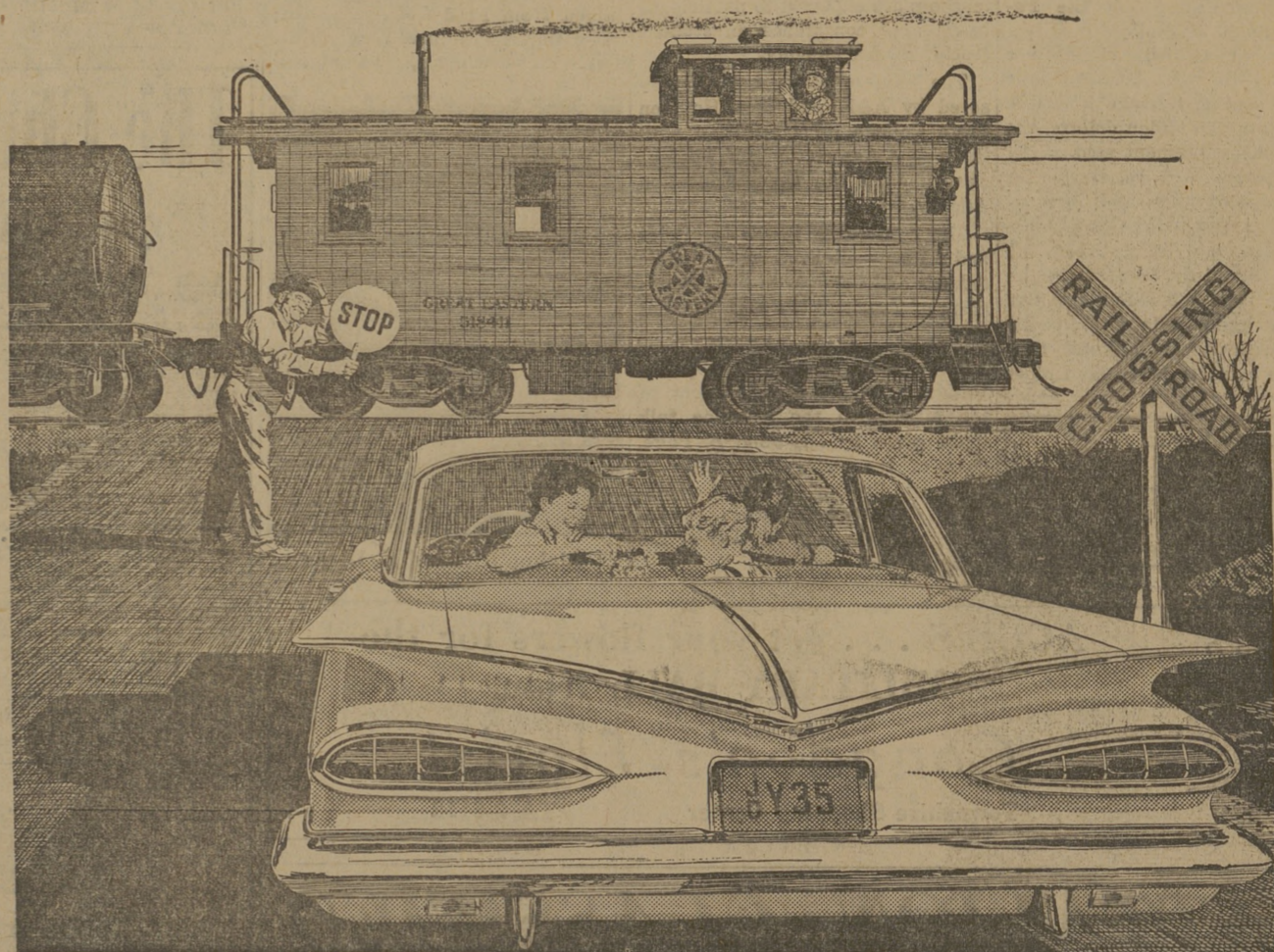
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