

Bennie Lenox Credits Timmins, Team Effort For Undefeated Conference Slate Thus Far



A&M'S ALL-EVERYTHING
Bennie Lenox aims for SWC crown first, honors second.

BY JAY FERGUSON
Special Writer

"Have Ball, Will Travel. Get in touch with Bennie Lenox, Texas A&M University."

This could well be the calling card of one of the Southwest Conference's fastest moving basketball players and one of the most surprising teams.

Lenox, a 6-2 personable youngster from Clear Creek, is now enjoying a short, well deserved rest after he and a group of fired-up Aggies defeated Texas 65-60 for the first time in Austin since 1959. But most important, is the fact that it left the Aggies on top of the Southwest Conference race with a 3-0 mark, which continues to baffle the "experts." The Aggies were picked in pre-season polls to finish third or fourth in the SWC race.

LENOX ATTRIBUTES the Aggies' recently improved play "to the fine efforts of the little scrapper, Paul Timmins." While Lenox was sitting on the bench at the Texas game Saturday, it was Timmins who took charge and shot the Aggies to as much as a seven point lead, only to see it fall under an inspired Texas charge. But by then, "dead-eye" Bennie had already set his sights on the basket and he came in to score three straight specialties, his driving

jump shot, which turned the Texas' roar into a tepid silence.

When asked about his greatest thrill in basketball, Lenox was quick to answer, "the 53 points," referring to the points he scored against Wyoming at the All College Invitational Tournament in Oklahoma City played over the Christmas holidays. Lenox broke the tournament record which was held by Frank Selvy of Furman.

Lenox added that beating Texas in Austin was a close second to his high scoring game. Bennie related that at the first of the Texas game, when the players were introduced, he and other members of the team were conscious of their TV appearance. But, Bennie added, "When the whistle blew, I forget all about it and started thinking about winning the ball game."

Many people are wondering whether or not Bennie will try to play professional basketball after he ends his career at A&M. Lenox admits that he would like to play "if they make it worth my while." Otherwise, Lenox plans to go into some selling phase of business. Lenox lists the Hawks and the Celtics as two teams he thinks he would enjoy playing for in the National Basketball Association.

WICHITA RANKS, by far, the best team that the Aggies have

faced this year, according to Lenox and Wichita's All American 6 ft. 7 in. David Stallworth is the best player. Wichita beat the Aggies, 70-56 in the semi-finals of the All College Invitational Tourney at Oklahoma City. Then the Aggies went on to take third place on Lenox' record breaking performance against Wyoming.

Lenox, who is also quite a golfer (his best round is 67), received basketball scholarship offers from all the Southwest Conference schools except Arkansas and from several out-of-state schools. When asked why he chose A&M, Lenox answered, "I guess they showed more of an interest in me than anyone else. They sorta' snowed me."

LAST YEAR, Lenox was named to the Helms Athletic Foundation All American Team which was a group of about 25 players, including such stars as Ron Bonham of Cincinnati, Gerald Harkness of Loyola of Chicago, David Stallworth of Wichita, Mel Counts of Oregon State and others.

When asked about this year's chances for all-American honors, Lenox just shrugged and said, "a lot will depend on how the team does. I don't think too much about it, if it happens it just happens. The important thing right now is the Southwest Conference race."

BEFORE THE Texas game last Saturday, Lenox recalled that Coach Shelby Metcalf was popping wisecracks in the dressing room in hopes that it would ease a little of the tension. One of Metcalf's favorites, said Lenox, is "Don't stop to pick up nothing less than a quarter." Well, the Aggies didn't and consequently moved in a better position to view the case which contains the trophy awarded to the 1964 Southwest Conference Champions. The trophy case lies in the hands of a youthful and spirited and their leader, All American Bennie Lenox.

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Gifted Players Ready To Sign Aggie Contracts

BY MARVIN SCHULTZ
Battalion Asst. Sports Editor

With the spring semester approaching college campuses throughout the nation, the rush for high school football talent swings into full gear as signing time for top-notch performers nears.

The Aggies are certainly no exception in this annual rush for gridiron heroes. Already, two players have definitely decided on Aggieland and await the Feb. 11 signing date to make it official.

David Wiggins, a high school star at Houston Austin last year graduated this semester and will enroll at Aggieland for the spring semester. Wiggins, 5-11, 185-pounder sparked the Austin attack at the halfback position carrying the ball for 6.2 yards per carry. Though he didn't garner all-city honors in the big city his recruiter, Joel Wahlberg regards him as one of the best backs in Houston.

Wiggins not only led his team offensively but held down the corner linebacker position on the Austin squad. Well versed in the gridiron game, Wiggins also is a straight A student.

The gifted Rockdale fullback L. B. Kubiak has decided to play football for the Aggies. The 6-0, 200-pounder averaged nearly five yards per carry last fall and was instrumental in leading the Tigers to a 10-1 season and a spot in the state AA playoffs. He, too was very effective in the stubborn Tiger defense.

Also awaiting the signing in ceremonies is Lubbock High School's star guard, Jerry Brasuel. Brasuel, a 6-2, 210-pounder was recruited by Craig Randall. He was a leader of a tough Lubbock line and has been described by Randall as a "hitter."

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