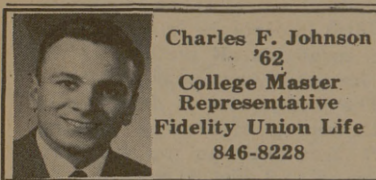
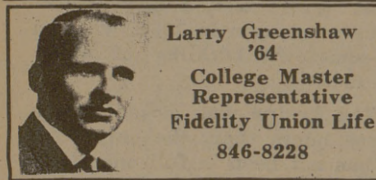


Wrestlers Open With 31-8 Victory



Charles F. Johnson '62
College Master Representative
Fidelity Union Life
846-8228



Larry Greenshaw '64
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Coach Russ Wieder's Aggie wrestling team opened their season this weekend with a 31-8 victory over an all-star team composed of the top wrestlers from Houston.

A quick pin by fish George Hollwidell in the 123 pound class put A&M ahead 5-0. Freshman Danny Shilk showed much potential in his second period loss to 130-pounder Robert Magdaleno, one of Houston's outstanding wrestlers.

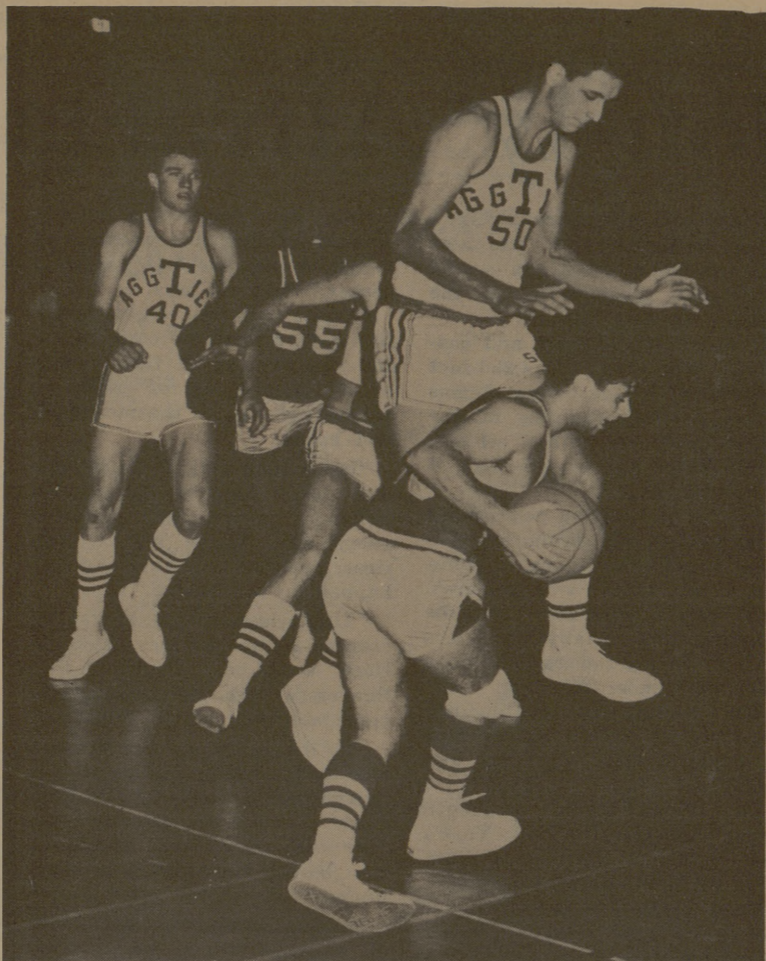
One of the highlights of the afternoon was the 137-pound bout between A&M's Don Jacobs and Dave Flores, the 32-year-old coach of the all-star team. Jacobs edged him 6-5 to put A&M ahead 8-5. The second and last Aggie loss of the day occurred when fish Scott Wheelis lost a hard-fought decision as Houston tied the score 8-8.

Putting A&M back in the lead was fish Mike Bishop, weak from days of not eating in his attempt to make the 152-pound limit. He pinned his man in the first period.

Two more freshmen who added to the Aggie score were 160-pound Larry Hembree, who defeated his opponent 7-0 and Bruce Davis, who pinned his man in the third period. One of the outstanding bouts of the day occurred when Mike Dodd used the guillotine split to pin 27-year-old Richard Ross in the first period of the match.

The climax of the afternoon's meet was the heavyweight match between A&M's Dave Henderson and Houston's John Cook. Although Cook outweighed Henderson by 35 pounds, Henderson pinned him in the first period of their match to end the scoring at 31-8.

After the meet, Coach Wieder stated that although he had had much confidence in his wrestlers, he did not think they would beat Houston so badly. He added that they would have to be even tougher when they meet Houston again at A&M on January 15th.



PIONEER GRABS IT

Fish Ronnie Peret (50), goes up to grab a rebound but too late as one of the Wharton Pioneers grabs it from under him. Billy Bob Barnett, (40) comes in to help put the pressure on. Wharton won the Monday night game 81-72.



FROM THE

Sidelines

By Larry R. Jerden

Well, after ten years, here we are again. On probation by the Southwest Conference.

Whenever this happens, it is quite natural that the restricted school come forth with some gripes and/or explanations. This is as it should be, because no one else is going to carry the torch for the offended party.

As the offended party's newspaper, we intend to raise a few questions and defend our man in the athletic department.

First of all, we are fully behind Coach Stallings in his actions, and believe that anyone honestly appraising the situation will agree with him, also.

For instance, is it really fair for an athlete who quits to receive the same scholarship as a boy who competes for the full season, sacrifices for the team and the school, often to injury to himself?

This, obviously, isn't fair to the boys who play, to the school, or to the fans.

And, after Coach Stallings cleared the physical education class in question with the executive secretary of the SWC, why did the conference come back and declare it illegal?

Most glaring of all in our eyes is the unequal treatment of schools placed on probation. When the Aggies are placed on probation, it seems the rule to bar

them from bowl games and place full sanctions on them. The same was true of SMU this past year.

But what about those powers of the gridiron, Arkansas and TCU?

They were both placed on probation for illegal recruiting practices, but for some reason, (winning?) there were no sanctions imposed.

Something does seem awry. I wonder if it could be tried under the equal opportunities act?

Coach Stallings has said that he and his staff discussed the situation with each boy when he decided to quit, and even encouraged him to stay. He also said that the boys agreed that the university had no responsibility to send them through school after they quit. And, finally, he declared that not one boy came asking for money or other support after he quit.

To those honorable men in the SWC, either they did not believe these statements or they did not matter to them.

If they did not matter, they should have. If they doubt the integrity of Coach Stallings, then he is not the man to be the Aggies' head coach... or they are not the men to run the SWC!

The decision has been made, and it won't likely be changed, but that sure doesn't make it right.

Ag Cagers Face Stern Test In Tournaments On Road

Coach Shelby Metcalf's basketball team has proven it can win at home (four wins, no defeats) and now faces stern challenges on the road the rest of this month.

In the friendly confines of G. Rollie White Coliseum the Aggies beat Trinity, 79-70; Southwest Texas State, 76-66; University of Houston, 93-88 and Memphis State, 93-84.

Now comes the Bluebonnet

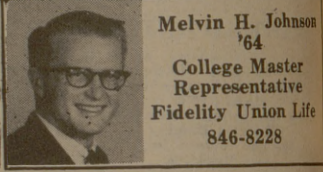
Classic in Houston Wednesday and Thursday nights and the All-College Tournament in Oklahoma City, Dec. 27-28-29-30.

The Aggies play Rice Wednesday and Houston Thursday in the Bluebonnet Classic. Both are 9 p.m. affairs.

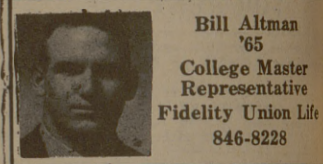
A&M's first action in the All-College comes at 7 p.m., Dec. 28, against Virginia Tech. The other game in that half of the eight-team bracket has Xavier meeting Wichita State at 9 a.m. Dec. 28. The upper bracket opens the four-day meet Monday, Dec. 27, with Wyoming meeting Rhode Island at 7 p.m. and Bowling Green going against Oklahoma City University at 9 p.m.

Statistical notes after A&M's first four games: John Beasley, 6-9 senior sharp-shooter, has a 31.8 average. His scoring, in order, has been 32, 32, 29 and 34... The Aggies are shooting at a 46.9 clip from the floor and

65.1 from the foul line... Big (6-6½, 248-pounds) Randy Matson, not expected to be a prolific scorer, has a 6.8 average but is grabbing 11.3 rebounds per contest... The Aggies have averaged 85.3 points per game against a 78-point norm for the foes... Reserves Tim Timmerman and Terry Trippet are shooting at 70.6 and 78.6 clip from the floor, but only 37.5 and 50.0 from the charity line...



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