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Probation For A&M?

By JOHN PLATZER
For the third time in 13 years, Texas A&M's football program will probably be forced to defend itself at the Southwest Conference Faculty Athletic Committee Conference which will be in Fort

Worth May 2-4.
The Dallas Morning News claimed Sunday that other conference schools had complained about alleged recruiting violations at A&M and that the school was currently under investigation.

The distribution and sale of football game tickets by athletes, issuance of complimentary tickets to high school coaches and players and transportation and entertainment of prospective athletes were among the charges cited in the Dallas paper.

Gene Stallings, Aggie Athletic Director, denied that A&M had offered inducements to athletes or that it had given tickets to athletes to sell.

"Texas A&M has done everything it can to live within the rules of the NCAA as set down by the Southwest Conference," Stallings, 1967 SWC Coach of the Year, said in a statement to the Associated Press.

"I don't know of anything we're guilty of, although I do know the investigator for the conference has checked us," he said.

Stallings refused to comment further on the subject to the Battalion Monday.

The Aggies came off conference probation only a year ago and celebrated with the SWC championship and a win over Alabama in the Cotton Bowl.

The 1965 probation came as a result of taking away athletes' scholarships when they quit varsity sports and for too many spring grid workouts.

The "extra" spring workouts were accredited by the conference to a PE 317 course, although the course had earlier been approved

by Howard Grubbs, executive secretary of the SWC.

In 1964 the conference placed Southern Methodist University, Texas University and the University of Arkansas on probation for almost identical recruiting violations. Although SMU's sentence included sanctions, none were imposed on Texas or Arkansas.

The Aggies were last accused of recruiting violations in 1955, when Paul "Bear" Bryant was head coach. The conference charged Aggie-exes with over-zealous recruiting of such prospects as Bobby Manning and Tom Sestak, now all-AFL performer with the Buffalo Bills.

The sanctions against the Aggies that year provided that the team not participate in any post-season games and that all the prospects that had been signed be released from their contracts and be allowed to sign with any SWC school of their choosing.

Despite the black clouds left by the unproven charges, spring training for the defending conference champions is advancing at full speed.

In a controlled scrimmage Saturday the Maroons rolled over the Whites, six touchdowns to none, behind three touchdown scampers by fullback Wendell Housley.

Housley's runs were of one, two and four yards while Tailback Larry Stegert had a five yard score and Johnny Weaver, a freshman, scored from 29 yards out.

The other score was made by All-America linebacker Billy Hobbs on a 40 yard intercepted pass return.



WINNING DIVE

Scott Zinnecker, representing civilian Dorm 21, gets off his winning dive in Monday's Intramural swimming finals at Wofford Cain Pool. Zinnecker was competing in Class A&C competition. (Photo by Mike Wright)

High-Scoring Ags Host Cougar Nine

By GARY SHERER
Old time baseball experts will tell you, a lot of runs today means

less runs tomorrow. If this is true, the Texas Aggie baseball team may be in for a long run drought as they get back into action today against the Houston Cougars in a 1 p.m. Kyle Field doubleheader.

Over the weekend, the Aggie nine scored 49 runs in a three-game series with Texas Tech at Lubbock. Coach Tom Chandler hopes there will be no truth to the old superstition as his Aggies will play their last two non-conference games of the 1968 season.

The Aggies started off Friday's doubleheader with Tech on a unhappy note, losing 13-11. They reversed the tide in the second game as they rolled up a 17-6 victory. On Saturday, Tech again scored six runs but the Aggies added even more as they pounded the Red Raiders 21-6.

The hitting hero for the Aggies in Saturday's game was outfielder Dave Elmendorf. The Houston athlete socked three home runs and knocked in seven runs in the Aggie rout. Catcher Joe Staples also hit for the circuit to add to the Aggies 17-hit attack.

A 55-mile-an-hour wind was a definite factor in Friday's games. The pitchers were at a disadvantage as the gusts of wind came right back at them and aided the hitters tremendously.

The Aggies are now 6-4 in the Southwest Conference and 15-6 overall and are now in third place behind Texas and Texas Christian.



HOUSLEY SCORES

Wendell Housley (27), Maroon fullback crashes over for one of his three touchdowns during Saturday's controlled scrimmage. Coach Gene Stallings watches the action as the Maroons piled up six touchdowns to the Whites none. (Photo by Mike Wright)

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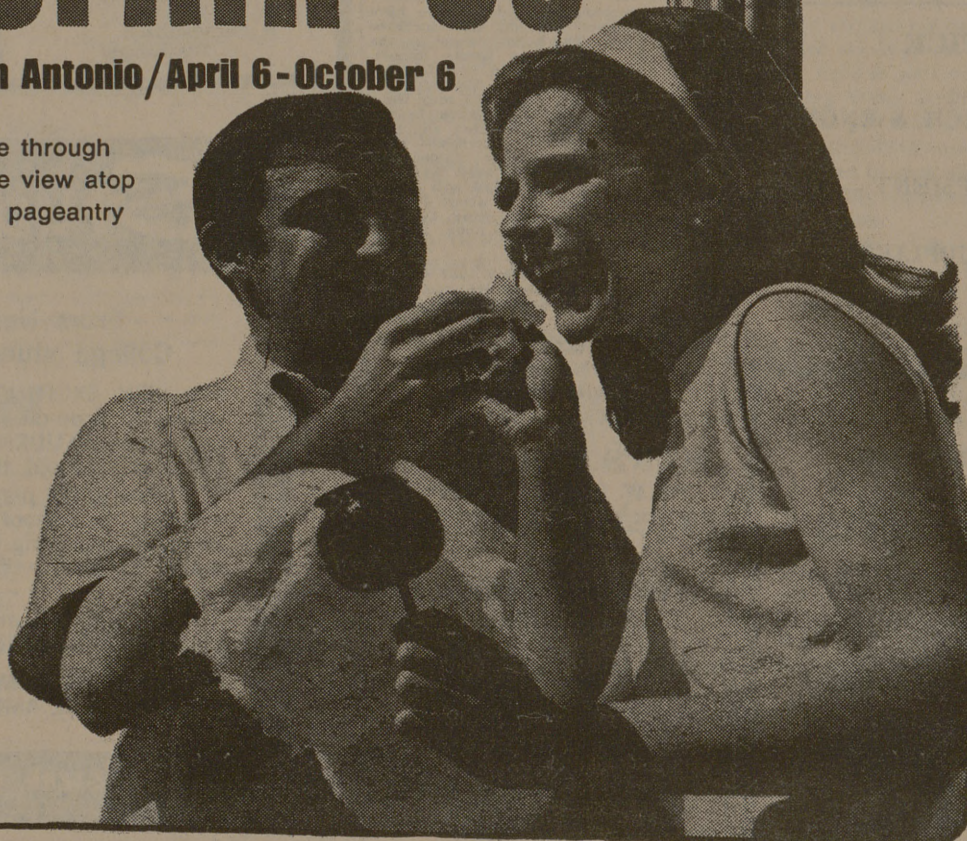
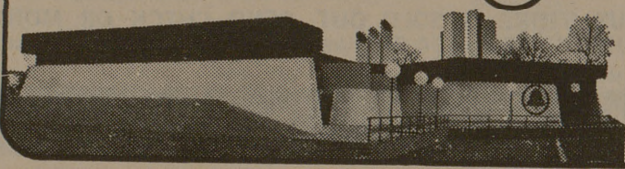
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