



Sports Aplenty

A Good Year

By GARY SHERER

The 1967-68 Texas A&M sports season, was, to say the least, event-filled.

It started out with many slogans about the 1967 football team that were wrongly-attributed to Coach Gene Stallings. And then when the team lost four games in a row, nobody wanted credit for the same slogans.

However, on the night of Oct. 14, 1967, things started to look up for the Aggies, sports-wise as well as football-wise. On that night, quarterback Edd Hargett's 15-yard touchdown run, with no time left, started the Aggie gridgers on a march that carried them through to the Cotton Bowl and a 20-16 victory over Bear Bryant's Alabama eleven.

The winning didn't stop there! Coach Shelby Metcalf's basketball team went down to the final week before being eliminated from the Southwest Conference title race. They were stopped by the team that eventually won the crown, TCU. The 14-10 overall record though, was the second best in the conference and one of just three winning-season slates.

The Texas Aggie baseballers finished with the best overall record (21-7) and led in practically all of the hitting statistics. However, as is the case when technicalities arise, Texas backed into the SWC title because of the senseless rainout rule the conference 'minds' came up with before the baseball season started.

Track took a little less of the spotlight in 1968 because of the absence of Randy Matson. However, Coach Charlie Thomas' tracksters did provide some excitement to the SWC cinder season as Martin Rollins, Curtis Mills, Lonnie Noel and George Resley had good years.

The '68 golf team did not repeat their 1967 SWC championship performance but were among the top teams in the conference. Coach Omar Smith's tennis team went through a rebuilding year and better things are looked for from players like Jon Ragland, Marcus Beleck and Mike Hickey next season.

The Aggie swimming team also had a inexperienced team and better things are expected for next year.

These pages didn't note it often, but Texas A&M had representation in other sports in this athletic year now past. Soccer, hand ball, gymnastics, and billiards to name just a few, had a lot of participation.

The soccer team made several trips (Austin, LSU) during its season. They had an ambitious program, as the players had to drive to the away games. Their home games were played on the parade field in front of the MSC.

Handball is a popular sport on campus for students and faculty and Deware Fieldhouse's courts are usually filled every day. In fact, Ozzie Burke and Dan Kennerly put Texas A&M on the handball map a couple of weekends ago by taking the National Intercollegiate Doubles Championships that were held at St. Louis.

Of course, Ray Fletcher's intramural program, which operated all year and will continue into the summer, got little news mention all year. However, students participated in all the intramural sporting events and the program was once again successful.

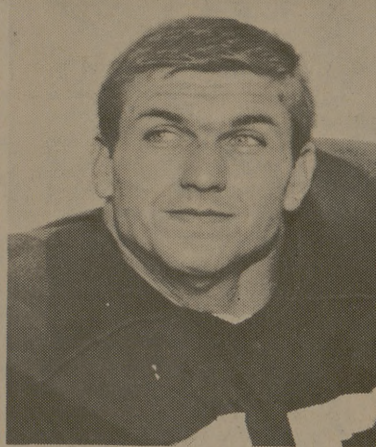
Last year we picked our outstanding performers from the four major sports at A&M (football, basketball, baseball and track). The Battalion sports staff (two in all) were come up with their four selections for 1967-68.

Football—Bill Hobbs and Edd Hargett (tie)
Basketball—Ronnie Peret and Billy Bob Barnett (tie)
Baseball—Joe Staples
Track—Martin Rollins

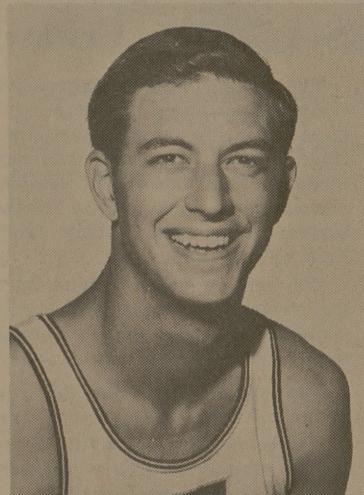
1967-68 was a good sports year at Aggieland, and 1968-69 promises to be even better.



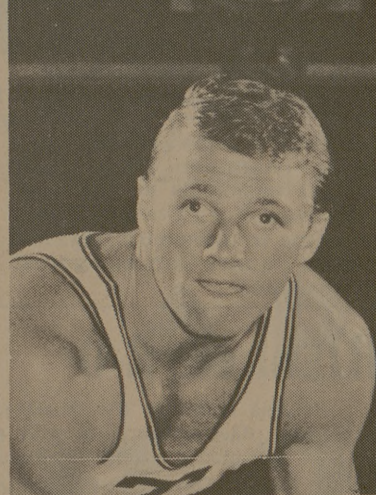
EDD HARGETT
Football



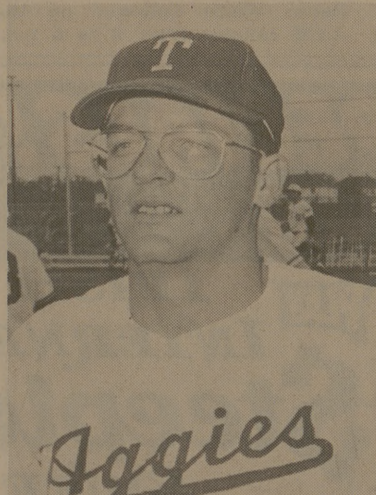
BILL HOBBS
Football



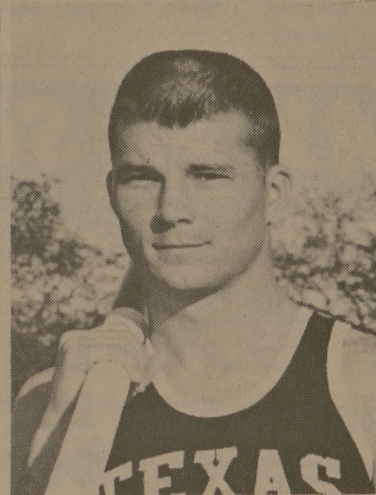
RONNIE PERET
Basketball



BILLY BOB BARNETT
Basketball



JOE STAPLES
Baseball



MARTIN ROLLINS
Track

1967-68 TOPS
The above sextet, are the Battalion's pick as the top performers in their sport for 1967-68.

Battalion
Sports

Whites Win 32-22,
In Spring Finale

Edd Hargett was the difference in the Aggie's Maroon-White Game Saturday as he threw for four touchdowns in leading the Whites to a 32-22 victory.

After trailing 14-13 at the half, Hargett connected with Barney Harris for a seven-yard touchdown with 4:15 left in the third quarter to give the Whites a lead they never relinquished. The drive covered 80 yards in 10 plays and began when a Charley Riggs field goal attempt from the 18 fell short and to the right.

THE WHITES stretched their lead to 25-14 on a Hargett-to-Bob Long pass with 9:31 left in the contest and made it 32-14 with three seconds remaining on a Rocky Seif to Sammy Williams 28 yard strike.

Any other college's squad game in the country would have probably been over at this point but A&M has found that three seconds come in handy at times. This was one of those times as Larry Stegent took the kickoff and raced for the right sideline, broke into the clear at about midfield and then through the Corps at about the 30 on his way to an 86-yard touchdown.

The Whites broke in front in the game with two opening period touchdowns. Hargett hit Harris for 21 yards and the first one and then Long for 24 yards on the second.

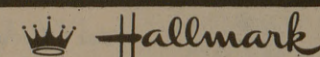
ROBERT STANSBERRY, a redshirt from Eden, directed the Maroons to the control of the second quarter as they scored twice to take their halftime advantage.

Stegent, who gained 74 yards in 20 tries in the first half, scored twice to take their halftime advantage.

Stegent, who gained 74 yards in 20 tries in the first half, scored first on a one-yard plunge and then Larry Kelly, a sophomore fullback from Clear Creek, duplicated the feat with 16 seconds remaining in the half.

Hargett connected on 15 of 35 for 193 yards in the game to go with his four touchdown tosses. The 1967 Southwest Conference

Offensive Player of the Year threw no interceptions. Stegent was the Maroon's top ball carrier with 80 yards on 23 carries, while Javier Vela paced the Whites, gaining 79 yards on 22 tries.



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