

Stallings Says Practice Is 'Going Well'

By RICHARD CAMPBELL
In the spring of the year, a young man's fancy naturally turns to thoughts of love, but not so football coaches. Aggie Head Coach Gene Stallings has other thoughts on his mind this spring, that of finding a winning combination before the grid wars begin in September.

Letterman's Lounge in G. Rollie White Coliseum Monday afternoon, he had nothing but praise for his spring football participants.

"I feel that we have gotten quite a bit accomplished so far this spring," Stallings said. "I'm very encouraged at the progress which the offensive line has displayed in practice thus far."

The A&M gridders are heading into their third week of spring training winding up with the Maroon-White game scheduled for Saturday, May 17 at

2:30 p.m. Stallings announced that he will divide the squad as evenly as possible between Maroon and White teams to assure a good, competitive contest.

The Aggie coach said, "I'm going to divide 'em so evenly that I won't know myself which team will win."

Stallings said that there has been a lot of contact work because "we are trying to find people to play in the offensive line and the only way to learn how to block is at full speed."

However, as a result of the

scrimmage on Saturday, six more Aggie hopefuls joined the corps of the walking wounded. Andy Philley, Allan Hanson, Mike Bunker, Andy Tewell, Mike Caswell, and Edwin Ebrom.

"If we had to play these boys today (Monday), they probably couldn't go," Stallings continued. "But they should be ready by the end of the week."

The Aggie mentor told of several of the problems faced by the team before fall practice begins. "Of course our biggest problem lies this spring in our abil-

ity to find an offensive line," he said. "Of course, a big question mark on any team is the quarterback. But I feel that blocking, especially the blocking in the line, is more important."

Depth at all positions seems to be one of the strong points for the Aggies with a good representation of last year's undefeated freshmen team vying for starting slots.

The quarterback spot is one of the most hotly contested on the team with Jimmy Sheffield, Robert Stansberry, and Rocky Self all showing the ability to move the team. Sheffield, a 6-0, 180 pounder from Houston Waldrip holds a slight edge right now but Stallings said "all are doing pretty good jobs".

Stallings said that only two positions were set in the offensive line, senior center Jack Kovar and senior tight end Ross Bruppacher. "Kovar has been doing an excellent job and Bruppacher is better at this stage than I thought he would be at his new position."

He said that there was a good chance that 10 to 12 sophomores could be listed as starters at the end of spring training.

Among the sophomores with a chance to finish as starters are offensive guards Robin Davis and Leonard Forey, offensive tackle Philley, tailbacks Steve Burks and Gary Armbrister, fullback Marc Black, defensive ends James Dubeck and Wayne Wheat, defensive guard Van Odom, linebackers Tewell, Steve Luebbehusen, Clifford Thomas, Mike Lord and defensive secondary players like Ebrom, David Hoot, Bunker, Corky Sheffield, Chris Johnson, and Bland Smith.

"Actually, a spring game is not really an accurate picture of the overall team," Stallings said. "But it does give you a good idea of a boy's desire."

Aggies Drop Pair To Rice, Face Cougars In Houston

The Aggie baseballers continued having trouble scoring runs over the weekend as they dropped two of three games to the Rice Owls in Houston.

Coach Tom Chandler's crew split a doubleheader with the Owls Friday, winning the first game 3-1 and losing the second 3-1. Rice won Saturday's single game 3-0.

A&M is in Houston this afternoon for a non-conference game with the University of Houston. The Aggies defeated Houston earlier in the season on Kyle Field. The season comes to an end this weekend when the Aggies host Texas in the final Southwest Conference series.

Bob Long drove in two of the Aggies' runs with a double and a homerun to pace the five hit attack. Boyd Hadaway, Dave Elmendorf and Benesh contributed the other A&M hits.

In Friday's second game, the Owls jumped on Aggie starter Doug Rau for the three runs in

the first and then hung on for the victory. Rau is now 2-2 in SWC play.

The Aggies had eight hits in the game but could come up with only one run. Pete Maida paced

the attack with two hits.

David Ownby set the Aggies down on two hits in recording the Rice win Saturday. A&M came close in the ninth but two long drives fell just short.

Golfers Near Title

The Texas Aggie golfers came up with their biggest win of the year Saturday afternoon as they downed the Texas Longhorns 3 1/2-2 1/2 to increase their Southwest Conference lead to three points.

The Aggies now lead the rest of the SWC pack by three points with a 24 1/2-5 1/2 record to 21 1/2-8 1/2 mark for the second place Longhorns.

Texas won the first foursome 2-1 when Chip Stewart of Texas beat A&M's Duke Butler two and one and Richard Ellis of A&M beat Rik Massengale of Texas two and one. Stewart and Massengale won the foursome play

1-up. The Aggies took the second foursome 2 1/2-1/2. A&M's Reggie Majors halved his match with Dean Overturf and Aggie Bill Wade beat Tom Kite 1-up. Majors and Wade won the foursome 1-up.

Majors ended as the medalist for the match with a three-over-par round, due mainly to the high winds in which the match was played.

A&M has two matches remaining in conference play meeting the Baylor Bears here today on the A&M course and Friday in Fort Worth against TCU.

Aggie Football Hopes Ride On Adami's Able Shoulders

John G. Adami Jr., better known as Buster, the hard-hitting Texas A&M football linebacker, currently is going through his final spring training at Aggieland and looking for-

ward to the climactic Maroon-White game the afternoon of Saturday, May 17.

Adami has been a two-starter at linebacker for the Aggies, perhaps playing somewhat in the shadow of two-time All-America Bill Hobbs. But, his senior season next fall should find him emerging into his own as a leader of the A&M defensive unit.

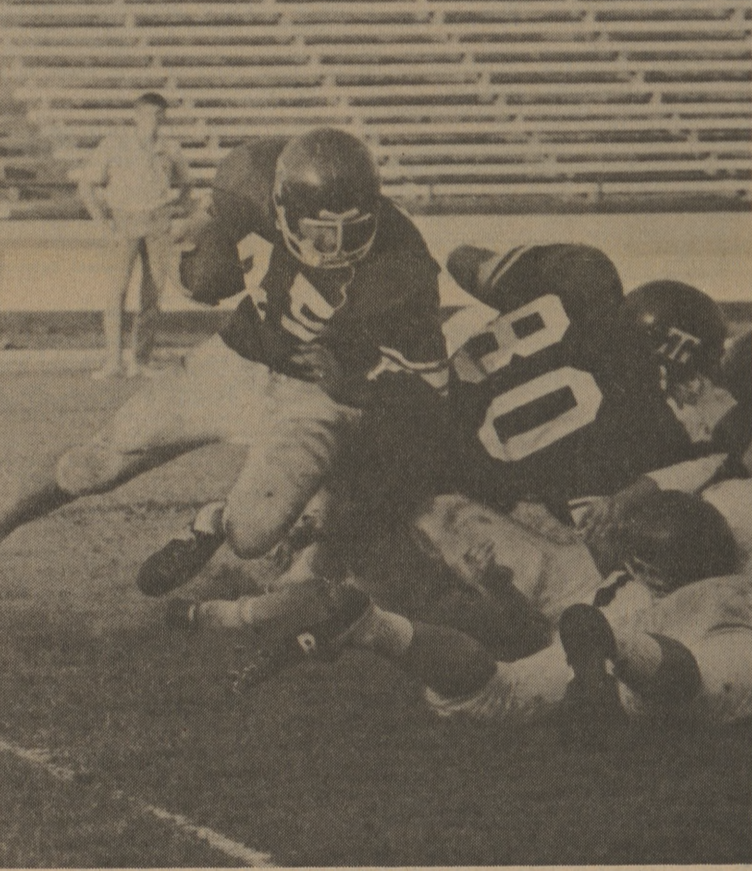
Leadership, intelligence and football toughness are traits Adami has shown for a long, long time.

At Freer High School he was an honorable-mention all-state quarterback, president of Freer's national honor society and valedictorian of his graduating class.

At Texas A&M he has made the distinguished student list, is currently company commander of the athletic ROTC army company and made the academic All-SWC team last fall.

Adami, a 6-1, 209-pounder, has had a lot of athletic thrills but the greatest came in the dying moments of the 1967 Aggie-Texas game when he was a sophomore. A&M had a 10-7 lead but Texas was driving when Adami made a diving interception of a pass that sealed the decision and gave the Aggies the Southwest Conference championship.

A political science major who plans to attend law school, Buster is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Adami of Freer. His father is a rancher.



POWER PLAY

Steve Burks, a 5-11, 171-pound sophomore from Dumas, digs for extra yardage in the scrimmage Saturday on Kyle Field. Burks at present is the starting tailback for the Aggies and is expected to provide some of the added running strength this fall for A&M. (Photo by Mike Wright)



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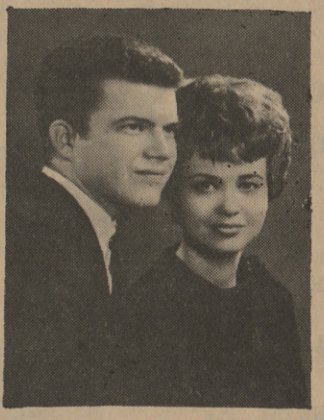
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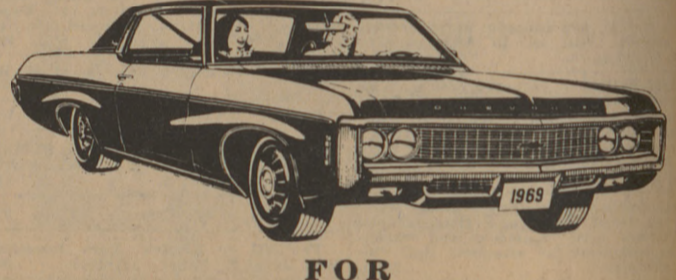
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