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Battalion Sports Editor

Spring is a time of breezes, rain, lots of baseball and track, but come next Tuesday, football again creeps into the picture with a perview of the 1970 Texas Aggie football squad via spring drills.

With a sophomore club last year, it is not surprising that 25 of the 29 returning Aggie lettermen are juniors. Coach Gene Stallings issued 51 letters last



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the fall.

The four seniors are All-America candidate Dave Elmendorf at safety, defensive tackle Dale Watts, defensive guard Winston Beam, who missed last season because of knee surgery, and Jimmy Sheffield, a punter and quarterback last year who will be tried at wide receiver this spring. Finding a quarterback before the fall grid wars begin again looms as the biggest problem on the A&M horizon because both of last year's signal callers will not be around to take charge. Rocky Self, the final starter for the Cadets last year, is out for baseball as a pitcher and will not even make a bid for the slot. Sheffield has been moved to split end after

Sixth-Ranked Ags **Invade Dallas**

Texas A&M's sixth-ranked baseball team returns to Southwest Conference action this weekend, and coach Tom Chandler hopes his squad can hang on to the spark which ignited them for a 17-hit showing against Missouri. The Aggies visit SMU in Dallas Friday and Saturday with a 9-4 record after splitting a doubleheader with Minnesota and taking two of three from Missouri. The Aggies are 2-0 in SWC play, sweeping a doubleheader with Baylor earlier in the season.

The Mustangs stand 1-5 in league play and 2-14 for the season, but Chandler doesn't underrate the Ponies.

"SMU has a pair of lefthanded pitchers who can beat you anytime, and lefties have been tough on us," Chandler said.

The Aggie coach credits a fine pitching staff for A&M's success thus far. Aggie hurlers have a combined earned 'run average of 1.74 and the opposition batting average is .176.

is hitting .500.

Chandler said that junior lefty Doug Rau (0.35 ERA) will pitch the first game of Friday's doubleheader. Rau has a 3-0 record. Senior righthander Dave Benesh (2-2, 1.44 ERA) will start the second game. Friday's twinbill starts at 1 p.m. Sophomore lefty Bruce Katt will start for the Aggies Saturday. Katt has a 1-0

The batting order will have Butch Ghutzman (.304) at second, Englert in left, Dave Elmendorf (.292) in center, Hodge catching, Boyd Hadaway (.268) in right, Chris Sans (.256) at first base, Jim Raley (.200) at shortstop, and Danny Ragland (.255)

after the first three games last year. So only junior Joe Mac King, who lettered last season as a placement holder, and sophomores Lex James and Brad Dusek will be in contention for the most important position along with squadman Kyle Gary.

There will be six vacancies on the offensive side for the Aggies and a like number on the defensive unit, so several of the outstanding freshmen will get a chance for starting berths.

The offensive starters from 1969 missing include ends Jimmy Adams and Ross Brupbacher, guard Jim Parker, center Jack Kovar, tailback Larry Stegent, and wingback Barney Harris. The defensive starters missing

are ends Jim Piper and Mike DeNiro, tackle Billy Bob Barnett, guard Lynn Odom, and linebacker Buster Adami and Mike Caswell.

There are some quality candidates around to battle for those positions, however.

In addition to the 29 lettermen, there are some outstanding squadmen returning. They include fullback Doug Robbins, 6-0, 210, Amarillo Tascoa; wide receiver Hugh McElroy, 5-8, 165, Houston Worthing; linebacker Andy Tewell, 6-2, 205, Austin McCallum; defensive end Clifton Thomas, 6-4, 225; Tidehaven; defensive end James Dubcak, 6-6, 225, Giddings; offensive tackle John Cunningham, 6-0, 250, San Antonio

sap, 6-0, 209, Fredericksburg. Then, such outstanding newcomers off the freshman squad

Dusek, 6-1, 190, Temple; center

Golfers Defend SWC Crown

By Clifford Broyles Battalion Sports Writer

The Texas Aggie golf team opens defense of its SWC golf crown against TCU here today with tee time slated for 1 p.m. on the A&M golf course.

Two members of last year's champs are back for another shot at victory, as seniors Duke Butler and Richard Ellis return.

Bill Wade who placed second in the SWC Individual Golf championships graduated and Reggie Majors who placed ninth is scholastically ineligible.

Coach Henry Ransom feels that this team could be better than last year's winners that nudged runnerup Texas by 2½ matches. Steve Veriato, an Air Force veteran who is a freshman is the third member of the squad and the fourth member has not yet been selected, Ransom said.

Six players are playing 72 holes to see who wins the fourth spot. Through Wednesday, 54 holes had been played and Tommy Johnson, a freshman from Harlingen, was leading the group.

Tommy Shelton, a sophomore from College Station and a returning letterman is one stroke

Buster Callaway, 6-4, 240, Ennis; LB Dennis Carruth, 6-1, 200 Dalas QB Lex James, 6-0, 180, Hous- las Jefferson; LB Grady Hoer-

behind Johnson with one round to

Ellis played on SWC championship teams in 1967 and 1969 and the Pampa senior placed fourth in the individual tournament last year only 8 strokes behind the medalist winner, Rick Massengale

of Texas. Butler, from College Station, placed 10th in the individual meet. The Aggies have been in com-

petition twice this season finishing sixth at the Border Olympics and fifth at the Morris Williams Invitational in Austin. A&M continues play in SWC

action Tuesday when they travel to Austin to play the University of Texas in a match that could help decide the conference champion.

Butch Kamps, 6-3, 240, Houston Bellaire; tailback Vance Kerbon 6-1, 205, Corpus Christi Flow Bluff; tight end Homer May, 62 200, Lubbock Monterey; Bois Best, 6-1, 225, tackle, Houston St. Thomas; LB Bruce Best, 64 225, Houston St. Thomas; cente Robert Gerasimowicz, 6-2, 22 Dickinson; tackle Gary Marin 6-0, 220, Houston St. Thomas and end Ralph Sacra, 6-5, 2% Houston Jesuit.

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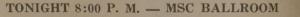
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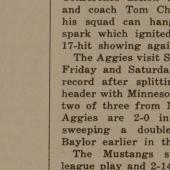


NOW A STARTER-R. J. Englert, shown here rounding third base against Missouri, won himself a starting berth after banging out four hits against the Tigers. The Big Spring sophomore is now the leading regular with a .500 batting average. (Photo by Mike Wright)

A&M's hitting hasn't been overpowering, but the batters have come up with enough hits at the right time. Catcher Billy Hodge is the leading regular with a .351 average, but R. J. Englert, a newcomer to the starting nine,

record and a 2.40 ERA.

at third base.





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