

Some changes for the better

By JOHN CURYLO

With the beginning of another sports year Saturday night, I'm sure every Aggie would like for things to be much different from last year.

The first area is the won-lost column. After nine straight losses in football, coaches, players, and students can think of nothing better than to have a good season.

Second, attitude is a big factor. The Twelfth Man is reputed to have undying loyalty, and such loyalty will be replenished greatly by a few more wins. But more importantly, the general attitude around the campus will improve. Last year, the student body was so down in the dumps that we looked and acted like losers. It's time for this to change.

Third, and most important, is conduct during the games. The Aggies play in such madhouses as LSU's Tiger Den, Nebraska's Memorial Stadium, and Texas Tech's Jones Stadium. It's about time opponents dreaded Kyle Field just as much. Too recently, we have been so hospitable that other teams love it here.

This is not to say that A&M should throw turkey eggs, the way they do in Lubbock, or that trash, both material and verbal, should be thrown at opposing players on the sidelines. Pure noise, supporting the Aggies, used to be enough to unnerve the visitors. When this again becomes the case, we will be the ones to win in Kyle Field.

Following this point is another: A&M has never had cheerleaders, they are yell leaders. Well, ideally, this year they will become cheerleaders.

The final point concerns yell practice. Midnight yell practice, though too rowdy, is well attended. It would be nice if more people turned out for the other yell practices, too. Early in the week, the team is working out during the 7:15 yell practice. And, during the Thursday yell practice that precedes away games, the team participates at Henderson Hall.

If anyone thinks that the team is not affected by yell practice, just ask them. Fan support has everything in the world to do with team performance. The part the Twelfth Man plays is a significant one; it can mean the difference between winning and losing.

It's traditional to meet the team at Easterwood Field when they return from games. Such an event should occur regardless of the outcome. If we don't care enough to show up at the airport, why should the team care enough to do their best?

So this year, let's all do what we can to be different than last year. If we all do our share, then the victories will be something we are responsible for, and they will be that much more enjoyable.

* * * * *

Tickets are still available for the Wichita State game under the Family Plan. Fans are also reminded that the mayors of Bryan and College Station have proclaimed this "Maroon and White Week."

Football Cardinals need to win, but they're still a year away

ST. LOUIS (AP)—The St. Louis Cardinals, frustrated in their bids for top National Football League status since winning in 1947 while Chicago based, are probably at least a year away from a championship.

The burden of winning is on tall Bob Hollway, former defensive architect of Minnesota Viking teams hired to replace deposed Charley Winner as head coach in February.

But Hollway, schooled in patience through 20 seasons as an assistant, seems determined to attack basics and install with soundness his philosophies before pursuing football's elusive title.

"I want my players quick, I want them disciplined and I want them aggressive; I want them to think positive," Hollway said after assuming the reins.

In an effort to fit into their conception of the Hollway mold, linemen and backs on the largely veteran Cardinals squad reported to camp in late July at less than their 1970 playing weights.

Rigorous training ensued and Hollway labeled the rough product the equal of former Viking powers. Yet the team has stumbled and been prone to error in losing two of its first three exhibition games.

Slow off the mark has been a running attack featuring powerhouses MacArthur Lane and Sid Edwards. A pass defense frequently brilliant in 1970 has leaked.

Hollway has expressed keen interest in an improved pass rush from an energetic and still-maturing front four, but the coordi-

nation between the defensive line and linebackers has yet to be achieved.

If there is but one key to how well the Cardinals' defense will perform in Hollway's first season it probably is in the person of 6-foot-2, 235-pound Jamie Rivers, the middle linebacker.

The quiet Rivers, a play diagnostician heralded for his part in three successive Cardinal shutout triumphs in 1970, is an excellent and strong tackler with skills yet to be polished in interceptions.

Better at interceptions and a Pro Bowl veteran at left linebacker is Larry Stallings, a nine-season player. Rocky Rosemana, in his fourth NFL season, is the likely right linebacker.

Roger Wehri and Miller Farr are excellent cornerbacks and all-pro Larry Wilson masterminds the pass defense at left safety, but right safety Jerry Stovall is fragile. With Stovall sidelined late last season, the Cards were vulnerable.

Hollway describes the Cardinal offense as swifter and more capable infinitely of the "big play" than was Minnesota during the Vikings' march to the 1969 NFL title.

Jim Hart demonstrated improvement in finding secondary pass receivers in 1970 but is more methodical than quick and is being extended by Pete Beathard for the job as top quarterback.

Either will have the benefit of stellar receiving in wide receivers John Gilliam and Dave Williams and Pro Bowl tight end Jackie Smith, who combined catches in 1970. Gilliam and the 6-foot-4, 235-pound Smith, a nine-season vet, have exceptional speed.

Lineup adjusted by Frog coaches

FORT WORTH (AP)—Texas Christian concluded a light workout Monday marked by several position changes after coaches studied films of scrimmage Saturday.

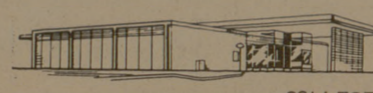
Sophomore David Prater moved up to second team left guard. Soph Mike Nolin made second team right guard. Rob Richey moved from offensive guard to second team right defensive tackle.

Tookie Berry, first team left inside linebacker and a tri-captain, returned to work after missing the scrimmage Saturday with a slight knee injury.

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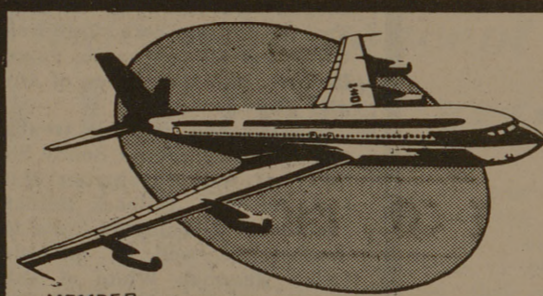


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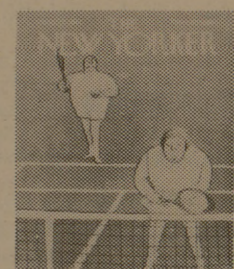
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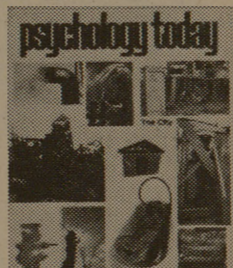
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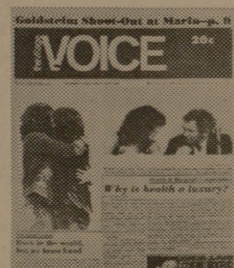
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