

BATT PICKS

Games	John Curylo	Mike Rice	Guest Picker	Sue Davis	Bill Henry	Hayden Whitsett	Doug Dilley
A&M-LSU	A&M	A&M	A&M	LSU	A&M	LSU	LSU
Ark-Okla. St.	Ark	Ark	Ark	Ark	Ark	Ark	Ark
UTA-TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU
Baylor-Kansas	Kansas	Baylor	Baylor	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas
USC-Rice	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC
Texas-UCLA	Texas	UCLA	Texas	Texas	Texas	UCLA	Texas
New Mexico-Tech	Tech	NM	NM	Tech	Tech	Tech	Tech
SMU-Okla.	OU	OU	OU	OU	OU	OU	OU
Dallas-Buffalo	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas
Houston-Cleve.	Cleve	Houston	Houston	Houston	Cleve	Cleve	Cleve
Last Week	8-2	8-2	7-3	7-3	7-3	5-5	2-8

Big man Van enjoys hitting

By BILL HENRY
Assistant Sports Editor

Van Odom, 6-0, 236, from Corsicana, likes to hit and thinks that playing middle guard gives him this prerogative.

His true position is a cross between middle guard and middle linebacker because he is able to play up in a two point stance behind the line or down on all fours head-to-head with the center. Odom also calls the defensive sets in the huddle. Nebraska also uses this defensive setup.

"I really like this position because it gives me the option to play either up or down," he said. "When I or the coaches feel that the other team will pass I usually play in a two point stance since I have to cover the middle zone in pass defense."

Odom also has a lot of confidence in this new defense, mainly because of the experience of the players on this year's Aggie squad.

"Last year we had far too many errors in our defense because we were young and inexperienced," he said. This year we are mak-

ing a lot less errors and the overall defense is playing much better."

Van is looking forward to the tough road ahead in this year's schedule after last year's lackluster 2-9 season.

"Last year I was really tired," he explained. "In fact I was so tired during the LSU game that I had to take oxygen. I was emotionally thunk out during the last 18 seconds and physically dead. When we scored the tears came freely."

Odom was asked about having to play in front of the different fans around the country and the difference it made on the playing field.

"In the beginning of the game it is kinda tough getting used to the change in all phases, the field of play, whether natural or artificial turf, humidity and the fans," he said. "At LSU the fans are quite loud and the natural grass in the stadium is usually pretty deep. After the game starts, though, you don't hear too much of the fans because you have your mind on other matters."

The question arose on how he feels going into this year as compared to last and if there was any real differences in the team itself.

"I am really looking forward to the entire season," Odom explained. "It is my and many of our players' last year in college football and we are real confi-

dent on the season. We can be a challenger this year. Last year toward the end of the season all we had to challenge was the cellar and we didn't do much challenging in that department. This game against LSU will probably be the toughest game we'll have because they are really going to be out to get us after last year's upset in Baton Rouge."

Odom is much heavier than last year, about 30 pounds heavier in fact.

"I can play better at this weight than the 202 I played at last year," he said. "This is what I should weigh at the position I am playing. I have not lost any quickness over the weight gain either, so in my opinion this is an added asset in my favor. It really helps me in stopping the running game up the middle."

The biggest help Odom got for his new position was the experience he gained at linebacker last season.

"It gave me added quickness and agility with the gaining of information on how to cover receivers on the pass," he commented. "I always have had a pretty good ability to stop the run."

The difference in Odom's style of play will be noticed by the opposition this fall when they try any play, whether running or passing, up the middle of the Aggie defense. This style of play just might get him a spot on the All-SWC team.

Improved Aggies battle Longhorns in water polo match here tonight

Tonight at 7:00 the Texas A&M Water Polo Club will take on its number one rival in the Southwest, the University of Texas at Austin.

The Aggies, who posted a 6-1 season last year, dropped their first polo match against the Longhorns in the fall, and came back in the spring to thoroughly trounce a floundering Texas team.

One dark spot for Coach Dennis Fosdick is the fact that he will be playing without three of his best players. Gordon Taylor didn't enroll in A&M this year, Mike McClellan is out for the season after falling out of a tree, and Les Hamman has a hurt finger.

Otherwise, Fosdick feels he will have a team that can play better than last year's team, because it is more experienced.

"We have the know-how," Fosdick said, "however, it is just a matter of being able to put it all together in one day. Last year, the game was relatively new to most of the boys. This year, we have a lot of new experienced faces together with some strong boys who can move the ball."

Due to start for the varsity team are co-captain Fred Meyers, an All-American, Steve Prentice, Eric Wolfe, Mike Hicks, Martin Litiken, Kim Blakeman, and Steve Engle in the goalie position.

In the freshman game, Doug Meaden, Steve Engle, Scott Jones, Wade Mattingly, and Kent Berryman are definite starters. The seventh spot is still up for grabs.

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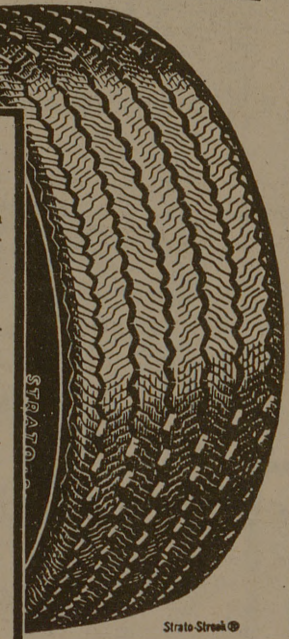
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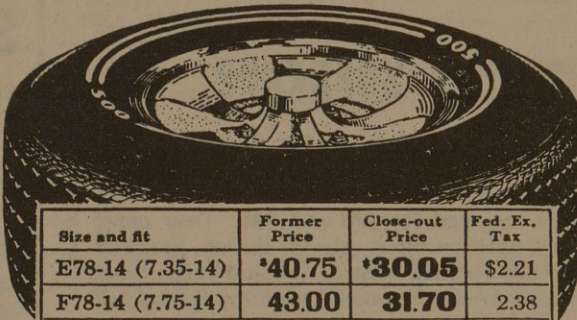
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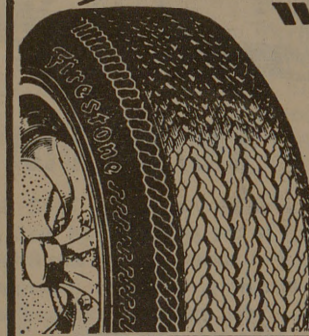
Size and fit	Former Price	Close-out Price	Fed. Ex. Tax
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H78-14 (8.55-14)	51.75	38.15	2.74
J78-14 (8.85-14)	57.75	42.60	2.91
F78-15 (7.75-15)	43.00	32.55	2.42
G78-15 (8.25-15)	47.25	35.75	2.64
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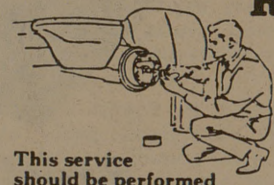
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G78-14 (8.25-14)	34 ²⁵	26 ⁵⁰	39 ⁰⁰	30 ²⁵	2.55
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J78-14 (8.85-14)	—	—	42 ⁷⁵	33 ²⁰	2.74
F78-15 (7.75-15)	37 ⁵⁰	29 ⁰⁰	42 ⁷⁵	34 ⁰⁰	2.80
G78-15 (8.25-15)	—	—	47 ⁷⁵	38 ⁰⁰	2.96
H78-15 (8.55-15)	—	—	49 ²⁵	39 ²⁰	3.19

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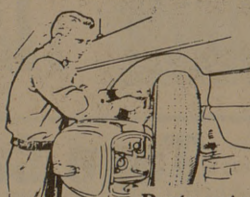


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