

John Curylo

# Selection of new head football coach may be delayed

For those who thought that Gene Stallings would mean a new coach immediately, take another look.

It may be weeks before a new head coach is signed to a contract and begins his tenure at A&M.

Dr. O. D. Butler, chairman of the Athletic Council and a member of the screening committee to study possible coaches, said Tuesday that they are considering many people for the job.

"We will announce a decision when we have found the best man possible," the head of the Animal Science Department reported.

A number of prospective coaches have been mentioned in rumors at Aggieland, the number of rumors being restricted only by the imaginations of those speculating on the situation.

A few of the more prominent possibilities bear serious consideration — Charles McClendon, Jack Pardee, Bill Yeoman, Willie Zapalac and Bum Phillips.

McClendon, Louisiana State's head man, has been successful at Tigerland, but he is under fire every time he loses, and he is not their athletic director. The athletic director position will be the key to A&M's ability to get a good replacement, because the ideal situation for any football coach is to be his own boss.

Pardee is a linebacker for the Washington Redskins. A classmate of Stallings, the former All-American was an assistant here in 1966. At 36, he is young for a coach, but rather old for a player. However, people around here may not be too anxious to have another Aggie—it's too hard to fire him, and that's what happens to A&M head coaches

as a rule. Yeoman has compiled a fine record at the University of Houston, but athletic director means a lot to him, and he has little chance of getting the position for the Cougars. The possibility of coaching in the Southwest Conference may lure him here, since he won't get the opportunity at Houston for a few years. Yeoman spent his freshman year here before transferring to West Point. This makes him appealing to the old Aggies with the fat wallets.

Zapalac is an assistant at the University of Texas, where he heads the offense for the Longhorns. He graduated from A&M in 1947, having played football before and after World War II. He was an assistant here for eight years. He joined the Texas staff in 1964.

Phillips is an assistant coach for the San Diego Chargers. In

the past seven or eight years, he has moved from head coach at Port Neches-Groves High School to defensive coordinator of the University of Houston to the professional ranks. Since Sid Gillman quit on the coast, Phillips might want to try college ball again.

Several problems are encountered in the task of getting the new coach. First, and foremost, is money. Stallings made \$25,000 a year plus the television contract. The new man may not get more, because too many people would object, but the television contract may be increased.

The next difficulty is the bowl and pro schedules. McClendon will coach in the Sun Bowl Dec. 18, Yeoman's Cougars are in the Astro Bluebonnet Bowl Dec. 31, the Longhorns play New Year's Day in the Cotton Bowl, and the pros aren't finished with their season yet,

either. None of these men would take a new job until their present one is finished.

A new coach would have to hire a staff. For Yeoman and McClendon, this would be a minor problem, since they already have staffs. But Pardee, Zapalac and Phillips would have to do some hunting. This takes time, too.

Then comes the question of recruiting. A new staff would be late in this task. If they started today, they would still be behind. Some people aren't used to this job, such as Pardee and McClendon. LSU has many of the top athletes in the state beating on its doors. The competition is a little stiffer here in Texas.

But what about coaching ability? Yeoman proven himself. Zapalac and Phillips have the proper experience. Pardee may be good, but nobody can say for sure. McClendon has such a

wealth of talent at LSU that his impressive record is not an indicator of his ability.

Whoever the new man is, his job will be hard. He has to win to satisfy those who didn't want Gene. He must project the A&M image to the public, regardless of his background. For the players, he must continue to mold into them the character and integrity Stallings was injecting.

This last point is foremost in the hearts of the true sportsmen, but it doesn't seem to mean much to the powers that be at A&M. Ask Gene Stallings—it's not how you coach the team, it's whether you win or lose.

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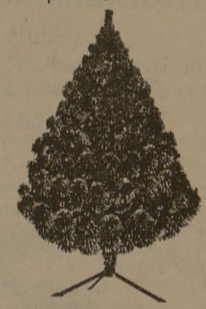
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# Aggies Forey and Hoot make All-SWC

By BILL HENRY  
Assistant Sports Editor  
Texas A&M's offensive guard, Leonard Forey, and defensive safety, David Hoot, have been named by the Associated Press

in Dallas as members of the All-Southwest Conference first team for 1971.

Conference champion Texas placed seven members on the elite squad to lead in total representation. Arkansas took runner-up

spot, placing six players on the team. Tech placed two, SMU added one, Baylor and Rice each added one to complete the team.

The late Jim Pittman of Texas Christian was named by his peers as SWC Coach of the Year after

molding an also-ran from last year into the conference's number three team in 1971.

Sophomore of the Year honors went to Alvin Maxson of SMU on offense and Danny Rhodes from Arkansas on defense. Maxson led the conference in rushing with 1,012 yards for a 92-yard per game average. Rhodes led the Razorbacks in tackles to get the bid.

The offensive player of the year is Razorback signal-caller, Joe Ferguson, and the defensive player of the year went to Tech's Marc Dove. Ferguson was the leading passer in the SWC while Dove intercepted five passes, blocked two field goals, recovered four fumbles and made 61 tackles on defense, not to mention his punt returning chores. Dove averaged 31 yards per return on his interceptions, including a 69-yarder against Arizona.

Players from Texas named to the elite unit included Jerry Sise-

more, tackle; Don Crosslin, guard and Jim Bertelsen, running back on the first team offensive unit, while tackles Greg Plotz and Ray Dowdy, linebacker Randy Braban and defensive back Alan Lowry made the No. 1 defensive squad.

For Arkansas, Ferguson, quarterback; Mike Reppond, split end; Mike Kelson, offensive tackle; defensive end Ronnie Jones and linebacker Rhodes, made All-SWC.

Other first team offensive members were running backs

Stable Vincent of Rice and Maxson. On defense, Roger Goree of Baylor, linebacker Larry Molinaire from Tech, and defensive backs Dove and Robert Popelka of SMU earned recognition.

## Outdoor workouts help swim team

By MICHAEL RICE  
Battalion Sports Writer

At this time of year one would expect to find the Texas A&M swimming team to be working out in the indoor pool in Downs Natatorium, particularly with the chilly weather that has descended on Aggieland.

Instead, Coach Dennis Fosdick still has his swimmers splashing up and down the outdoor pool, which is heated above the temperature of the air, despite the attempts of nature to cool it back down.

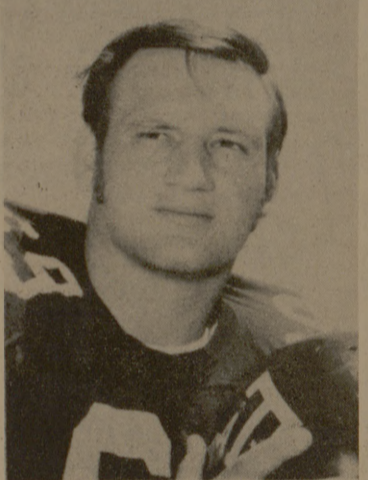
What will swimming in the outdoor pool at this time of year do for Fosdick's swimmers?

"Hopefully, it will increase stamina and strength for next spring's conference championships," said Fosdick. "We fell down last year in the distance events and we are doing everything possible to avoid that this year."

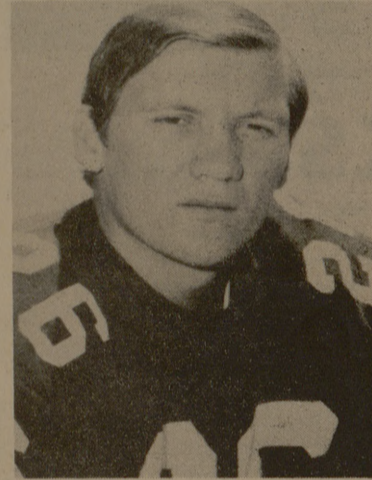
This also means that there will be no taper of any sort for meets that are coming up between this Friday, when the team travels to Arlington for a triangular meet against UTA and Alabama, and the end of January.

Alabama and UTA will have definite advantages over the A&M squad in that both teams have been working out just in swimming since the beginning of the year. A&M, in the meantime, has just finished a 17-3 water polo season, which saw the team take the first place honors in the Southwest Water Polo Championships.

Last year, A&M finished fifth in the conference standings and hopes to be a strong contender for the runnerup spots behind heavily favored SMU and Texas University.



Leonard Forey



David Hoot

# It's all in the Texas A&M University 1971-72 Directory

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