

Coaches busy arranging personnel

It's almost spring football time

By PAUL McCRATH
Staff Sports Writer

It is hardly Spring, but nevertheless preparations for the upcoming training sessions are already underway.

The Texas A&M football coaches are busily arranging their personnel to fill the vacant gaps left by graduation. Changes in the offensive system and strategy is another area under the coaches' scrutiny.

On defense, Lester Hayes will be moved from linebacker to strong safety. Tim Gray and James Daniels wear the Maroon and White no more as they have joined the ranks of the professionals. The defensive secondary will have Pat Thomas, Jackie Williams and either Mike Williams or Tony Blankenship fighting for the other spot.

Jimmy Dean replaces Warren Trahan in the line and Edgar Fields takes over where Ted Lamp left off. Tank Marshall also figures in the picture for defensive lineman.

Defensive coach Melvin Robertson is pleased with the depth of his defense which is one thing he says a team has "got to have." Robertson said, "We're in the position where we can start a guy in every spot, except where Tim was, who has played a lot." He said the defense

Hoosiers still king of the hill

(AP) — Indiana, which needs to beat Michigan State on Saturday to finish the regular season unbeaten, again was unchallenged as the No. 1 team in the weekly Associated Press major college basketball poll.

The Big Ten Conference champions victimized Illinois and Ohio State last week for a 28-0 record. As a result, the Hoosiers cornered all 41 first-place votes and 820 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters.

Maryland, which takes a 22-3 record into the Atlantic Coast Conference playoffs after finishing the regular season with triumphs over Duquesne, Clemson and East Tennessee State, remained second with 716 points. Louisville, 22-2 with one game to go after beating West Texas State and North Texas State last week, held on to third with 667 points.

However, Kentucky 21-4 after splitting the week's card with a loss to unranked Florida and a victory over Vanderbilt, slipped from fourth to sixth place with 409 points.

UCLA, fifth a week earlier, moved into the No. 4 spot with 572 points after raising its record to 22-3 by beating California and Stanford. Marquette, 21-3 after whipping Oklahoma City, advanced one notch to fifth with 452 points.

Trailing Kentucky in the Top 10 are Alabama, North Carolina State, Arizona State and Pennsylvania.

Alabama, 22-3, moved up from eighth with victories over Georgia and Florida. Defending national champion North Carolina State dropped to eighth place after losing to North Carolina and edging UNC-Charlotte for a 20-5 record. Arizona State, 22-3, remained No. 9 and Ivy League champion Penn held on to 10th.

Southern Cal, 18-6, is No. 11 in the standings released Tuesday, followed by North Carolina, 18-7; Creighton, 19-4; Clemson, 16-9; Oregon State, 17-9; Notre Dame, 18-5; Pan American, 22-2; Texas-El Paso, 19-5; Arizona 20-5, and Rutgers, 20-6.

The Top Twenty, with first-place votes in parentheses, season records through Saturday, March 1 and total points. Points tabulated on basis of 20-18-16-14-12-10-9-8 etc.:

1. Indiana (41)	28-0	820
2. Maryland	22-3	716
3. Louisville	22-2	667
4. UCLA	22-3	572
5. Marquette	21-3	452
6. Kentucky	21-4	409
7. Alabama	22-3	378
8. N. C. St.	22-3	319
9. Arizona St.	22-3	308
10. Penn	23-4	296
11. S. Calif.	18-6	128
12. N. Carolina	18-7	120
13. Creighton	19-4	105
14. Clemson	16-9	96
15. Oregon St.	17-9	84
16. Notre Dame	18-5	71
17. Pan American	22-2	56
18. Tex. El Paso	19-5	44
19. Arizona	20-5	33
20. Rutgers	20-6	25

Others receiving votes, listed alphabetically: Centenary, Cincinnati, DePaul, Florida State, Furman, Holy Cross, Kansas, LaSalle, Memphis State, Michigan, Middle Tennessee, Minnesota, New Mexico State, Nevada-Las Vegas, UNC-Charlotte, Oral Roberts, Oregon, Purdue, Rutgers, St. John's, N. Y., South Carolina, Stetson, Tennessee, Texas Tech, Utah State.

had good depth last year and has "a good chance to have it this time."

No changes in alignment for the defense are planned, it will remain the same 4-3 configuration. "It will look the same from the stands," said Robertson.

The offense is a different matter. New offensive co-ordinator Tom Wilson has installed the I formation into the Aggie attack. "Coach Bel-

lard wanted to expand the offense and my experience has been with the I," said Wilson. The offense will remain basically the wishbone (or T-bone) with the I added to put spice in the mixture. "It should give us a more flexible offense," Wilson said.

As for personnel, the offense has to replace only center Ricky Seeker and fullback Jerry Honore. Henry

Tracy, Dennis Swilley and Matt Freeman are the main candidates to replace Seeker. Ronnie Hubby will fill the backup spot left open by Honore. Four players will vie for the quarterback spot says Wilson. David Walker, David Shipman, Mike Jay and Jimmy Kocurek will be taking snaps this spring for A&M.

Wilson also feels, that like the de-

fense, the offense will have more depth. He says the freshman crop will be adding to the offensive depth but right now he is only concerned "with those who have proved themselves."

Spring training will start on April 1 following the holidays. At that time, the plans for next season will be taken off the chalkboard and put on the field for the first time.

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