A&M Consol athletes face lack of space, equipment

By MARIE HOMEYER
Battalion Staff Writer

Growth in athletic participation along with growth in student enrollment has created problems for the A&M Consolidated High School coaching staff.

Athletic Director Bob McLeroy said that success of their athletic teams has increased the participation in their programs. "It's a healthy situation if you have the facilities," McLeroy explained.

But Consolidated does not have the facilities. At 2:30 p.m. every day, 170 to 180 athletes report to the gymnasium for class. Since all cannot be crammed into one gym, they are scattered to other parts of the campus.

The Physical Education classes are forced to be held in the cafeteria. The cross country track team, numbering close to 40, run the aisles in the auditorium. Half of the off-season football players are crowded into the weightlifting room while the other half has difficulty in finding somewhere to go. "It's a struggle to get the job done," McLeroy said.

Consolidated offers every sport included in University Interscholastic League competition.

At the present time seven basketball teams are trying to operate in one gym. There are four boy teams and three girl teams. Each week Consolidated hosts 10 games. "It's a challenge to coordinate," McLeroy said. Besides planning for the home games, practice time for each team must be included.

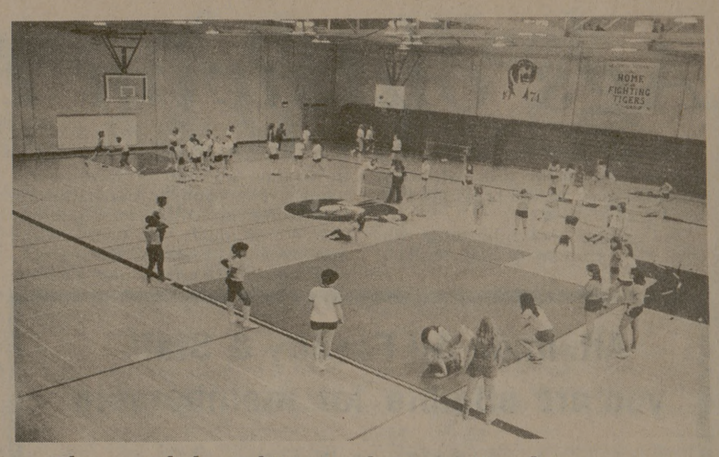
Another area in which overcrowded conditions occur is in the dressing and office facilities. Because 12 coaches could not operate out of one office, the training room was converted into another office. Due to this conversion, a homemade training room was set up in a corner of the boys dressing room.

For 180 athletes there are only two toilets in the dressing room. Three to four persons share a locker. Shoulder pads are placed on shelves in the dressing room. Other storage is packed into very compact areas making access to equipment difficult.

In other areas additional problems exist. In past years the Consolidated swimming team and golf team were allowed to use University facilities. But because of the growth in the University, Consolidated was "cut out." The track is the only facility still utilized by Consolidated.

The swimming team is now using the College Station city pool, which is heated. The golf team has moved to the Bryan Municipal Course where they must pay a green fee for every player. Bryan High School students do not have to pay this fee.

The only promising outlook for Consolidated coaches is that a bond issue be passed in the near future. But first the school board must approve it and then the citizens must approve it. If such a bond issue were to be passed, McLeroy said, new dressing and office facilities and indoor workout areas would get top priority.



The crowded conditions and competition for space in athletic facilities at A&M Consolidated High School is evidenced by the number of groups using the school gym. Several boys and girls basketball teams use the facility as well as the gymnastics team. Because of the growth of Texas A&M in recent years, Consol is no longer able to use university facilities.

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Coach vows no cheating for Mustangs

HOUSTON (AP) — Ron Meyer, Southern Methodist University's new head football coach, said Tuesday he intends to create a new winning image for the Mustangs and he intends to do it within the rules.

"I don't want some athlete coming in and telling me he's going to blow the whistle on me," Meyer told a meeting of the Houston Sports Writer's and Sportscasters' Association. "There's no doubt we can recruit without cheating. It turns a lot of prospects off."

Meyer, named last week to replace Dave Smith, said he thinks recruiting violations are blown out of proportion.

"Football is getting a bum rap," the former Navada-Las Vegas coach said. "One per cent is fouling up college football for the rest of us. I'll tell you. I'll take that lie detector test and I'll say I don't know of a program that is cheating now."

Meyer, accompanied by SMU athletic Director Dick Davis, is getting his recruiting campaign in high gear since assuming his duties last week. He said rumors of recruiting violations often get started as excuses.

"An assistant coach gets beat out on a kid by Darrell Royal or Frank Broyles and he figures 'well, they bought him,' " said Meyer, who took his Nevada-Las Vegas team to the NCAA Division II playoffs last season.

Davis said SMU is going to change its image from one that has been in and out of trouble with the NCAA rules committee in recent years, to one of a solid winning football program.

"I think we've lost sight of one thing," Davis said. "The NCAA rules book is that thick," he added, suggesting about a three inch thick book with his thumb and forefinger.

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5 pound ProTen Beef Blade or Round Bone Chuck Roast, cut 2½ inches thick
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1 teaspoon ginger
1 tablespoon shredded orange peel
1 clove garlic, sliced
2 whole cloves
1 teaspoon sugar
4 onions, sliced
1 pound can tomatoes
2 slices rye bread, torn into pieces
1 green pepper, sliced into rings
Melt fat in a heavy skillet or Dutch oven. Brown roast in melted fat 15 to 20 minutes. Sprinkle beef with salt, ginger, and orange peel. Add garlic, cloves, sugar, onions, tomatoes, and rye bread. Cover tightly and cook slowly on top of the range or in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 2 to 2½ hours or until roast is fork tender. Add green pepper rings the last 30 minutes of cooking time. Remove from pan. Skim excess fat from pan drippings. Serve drippings with roast.
A colorful dish with a European back ground. The rye bread thickens the drippings.

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