

New formations in store

Aggies begin spring drills

By TONY GALLUCCI
Battalion Staff Writer

Texas Aggie Football, team of their best year since 1956, practice today for the 1976-77 season.

Aggies face their biggest loss in the backfield when 23 senior lettermen graduate. Included in the list are all-Americans Garth Nadel, Ed Simonini and Pat Kasper. Other standout starters

who leave A&M are Carl Roaches, quarterback David Shipman and Fullback George Woodard. David Walker, starting at quarterback two years ago also returns.

Returning defensive starters include end Tank Marshall, tackles Edgar Fields and Jimmy Dean, linebacker Robert Jackson, cornerback William Thompson and safety Lester Hayes.

One of the surprises for the upcoming session will be a look at some

new offensive formations, including one which sets a back in motion from the fullback position. Ballard said earlier that the wishbone may still be used in the coming season in reference to news reports that the formation of his invention had been scrapped.

The position in motion, known as the floater, will be handled during spring training by Mike Floyd, Robert Verde and Randall Teate. Both Floyd and Verde have played at split-end for the Ags previously, while Teate is a mid-term junior college transfer.

The backs in the formation will likely be Woodard, and Eddie Hardin, a reserve fullback behind Woodard last year. Top candidates for the back positions will be Adger Armstrong, Gary Young, Darrell Smith and Bobby Mitchell. High

school sensation Curtis Dickey will have to be reckoned with in August.

A battle is also shaping up at quarterback where Shipman and Walker, both starters in past seasons, will be challenged by Keith Baker, a freshman who saw limited action last season.

Three of the front four defensive linemen return with the open position being sought by Stacy Breihan and transfer Eugene Sanders.

Thompson's spot at the corner looks solid, with a host of others seeking the open spot. Hayes at safety will also be accompanied by one of half a dozen talented competitors.

Basically both sides of the line look solid with major competition upcoming in the backfields.

The culmination of four weeks of hard work, the Maroon and White game, is scheduled for 7 p.m. April 24.

never had a better first half against Indiana, nor a worst second half. This was the first time they really beat us."

It was the third time Indiana has beaten Michigan this season — the others 80-74 and then 72-67 in overtime.

Orr said Michigan was running well and shooting well until his club got into foul trouble early in the second half, and eventually lost two players — Britt, team captain, and freshman Phil Hubbard, who had fouled out in the two previous Hoosier games.

"They were getting the shots, and we were fouling them before the ball dropped in," Orr said. They just wore us down."

Indiana wins title

Associated Press
PHILADELPHIA — Michigan was all over when with 44 minutes left Indiana Coach Bobby Orr began removing his star players one by one and hugging joyfully as Hoosier partisans cheered.

"I'm happy for them," the elated coach said afterward, "and for those who have invested part of themselves in this team."

No question, Indiana is the No. 1 team in the country," acknowledged Indiana Coach Johnny Orr when the buzzer finally ended his 86-68 triumph, giving the undefeated Hoosiers their 32nd season victory in the National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball title.

Knights and loser Johnny Orr put the finger on Benson as the major difference between the two Big Ten rivals.

Knight observed that Benson deserved the MVP accolade.

"He played an outstanding game," said the Indiana coach. "He did an outstanding job on the boards. He got the ball for us."

Benson, a junior from New Castle, Ind., didn't allow a little thing like a cast on his left wrist to deter him. He's been playing with torn ligaments, and has plans for an operation during the off season.

And to hear Knight tell it, Benson has yet to reach his peak.

"Benson has developed well at Indiana," observed Knight, who has encouraged the big guy to be aggressive.

"He'll develop even more next year," Knight said. "He's done an outstanding job and he'll do even better," the coach added.

It's hard to envision Benson any better than he was against Michigan Monday night. He was devastating. Phil Hubbard, the talented Wolverine center, fouled out trying to stop the Indiana crusher.

Benson scored 10 points in the first half as Indiana left, trailing 35-29.

"It was just a matter of gathering myself together," Benson said. "I was a little tight in the first half. I knew I had to take the ball stronger to the hoop. I had to do my job rebounding and defending."

Then, Benson provided the understatement of the night.

"I guess I just played harder in the second half," he noted.

Benson credits God with his development as the best center in college basketball.

"Coach Knight helped me considerably, but everything I've done goes back to my faith in Jesus Christ. I played tonight (Monday) not for myself, or for my teammates, but for the glory of God. I get my emotional energies from Jesus Christ. He's my only audience. I try to play for Him."

Batt sports

beginning Quinn Buckner, Indiana's star guard, boasted, "We won four games. What else can you do?"

Michigan almost pulled off an upset but ran out of gas and into foul trouble with 10 minutes to go.

"We made a great effort," Orr said specifically referring to the Hoosiers' strong first half when they led 35-29. "But they were better in the second. We are used to having lost to one hell of a basketball team. . . . They're damn good. I'll tell you that."

Indiana won despite losing its star guard Bobby Wilkerson in the opening minutes. He suffered a severe concussion in a collision with Michigan's Wayman Britt.

"When you lose someone so suddenly you don't have much time to think about a lot of things," Knight said. "You just try to think of a replacement. We tried a couple of guys when we went for more quickness. . . . Jim Wisman. Jimmy did a great job moving the ball from side to side, getting it to the people who were open. It's interesting that he played hardly at all previously in this tournament."

Wisman came in with 42 seconds left in the first half, and he stayed all the way in the second half when the Hoosiers broke the game wide open.

Wisman was the difference that allowed them to run their offense," said Michigan's Steve Grote. "We

Indiana crushed Michigan 86-68 Monday night to complete a march through one of the toughest brackets in NCAA tournament history. The Hoosiers beat four of the Top Ten ranked teams en route to their third title in eight postseason ventures.

Both winning Coach Bobby

Netters win two, lose one

The Aggie tennis team picked up two wins last week and dropped a match, all in non-conference play as they prepare for the second round of Southwest Conference play.

The Ags beat touring Michigan on Tuesday 7-2, losing the first set but shifting some of his team's momentum and ended up with a four set sweep.

Friday the Ags lost 5-4 to a tough Wisconsin squad then bounced back with a 6-3 win over Lamar on Saturday.

The Aggies resume conference play this afternoon against Houston. TCU comes to College Station Friday and the Ags travel to Waco for a match with Baylor on Sunday.

— Tony Gallucci

Waco, Tex. — Buster Turner's pinch hit three-run homer capped a five-run seventh inning as the Texas Aggies beat Baylor 6-3 Monday, but the Bears gained a split of the Southwest Conference baseball doubleheader with 5-2 victory in the second game.

Baylor led until the final inning of the opener, when the Aggies exploded for four hits that produced the five runs. James Gibson got the victory for the Aggies, his 10th this year. Until Monday, Gibson had not allowed a run for 52 innings.

Aggies beat Baylor 6-3, then get first SWC loss

John Schott scattered six Aggies hits in the second game to hand Texas A&M its first SWC loss of the season. The Aggies led in the early going, but Shane Nolen's two-run double tied it in the fourth and Baylor went ahead for good on a solo homer by Mike Wells.


Baylor's record is 14-13 overall and 6-5 in the SWC. The Aggies are 24-3 overall and 7-1 in the conference.

The loss in the second game dropped the Aggies into second place in the SWC race, behind Texas and Houston which each have 11-1 loop marks.

1976 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Site	Kickoff
Sept. 11	Virginia Tech	College Station	4 p.m.
Sept. 18	Kansas State	College Station	4 p.m.
Sept. 25	U. of Houston	Houston (Rice Stadium)	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 2	Illinois	Champaign	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 9	Texas Tech*	College Station	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 16	Baylor*	College Station	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 23	Rice*	College Station	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 30	SMU*	Dallas (Cotton Bowl)	1:30 p.m.
Nov. 6	Open Date		
Nov. 13	Arkansas*	Fayetteville	1 p.m.
Nov. 20	TCU*	College Station	1:30 p.m.
Nov. 27	Texas*	Austin	2 p.m.

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Vols, Horns run 'dual' at Dallas

By PAUL McGRATH
Battalion Sports Editor

Orange and white were the colors of the day as the University of Tennessee and the University of Texas track teams made a dual meet out of the Dallas Invitational.

The Volunteers and Longhorns, both having uniforms cast in similar hues, between them won 13 of the 18 events, while finishing one-two in the meet.

The talented Tennessee team amassed 139 points to Texas' 102. Kansas followed with 96, Baylor with 72, Oklahoma with 61, Texas A&M with 57, Oklahoma State with 19 and SMU with 8.

The Vols won both relays and dominated the sprints. NCAA finalist Reggie Jones won the 100-meter dash in 10.0, one-tenth of a second off the world mark. Jones also anchored the Tennessee sprint relay team which set a meet record with a 40.0 clocking.

In all, Tennessee won eight events including a 46.6 victory in the 400-meter dash by Lamar Preyor.

Texas' Jim McGoldrick and Dana LeDuc gathered 32 points in the discus and shot put while teammates David Shepherd and Frank Estes finished first and second in the pole vault at 17-1 and 16-6 feet respectively. This quartet scored almost half of the Horns' total points.

The Longhorns won five events, finishing second in both relays. This marked the first time this year that the defending Southwest Conference champs had finished ahead of Baylor.

The Aggies placed 15 men in 17 events — they did not enter the tri-

ple jump — but could finish no higher than sixth. Yet, assistant A&M track coach Ted Nelson was pleased.

"Even though we finished sixth in the meet we felt that we had some real good performances," he said.

Bill Newton had his best javelin throw of the year with a 233-3 foot toss. High jumper Don Riggs equalled his personal best ever with a leap of 6-10 feet. Ronnie Keyes barely missed clearing the height, hitting the bar with his heels.

Brad Blair placed third in the pole vault with a season's best vault of 16-6 feet. Sprinter Ray Brooks ran a 21.0 in the 200-meter dash for third place, defeating one of the nation's top dash men in Tennessee's Ronnie Harris. Harris ran a 45.7 quarter last year and was often under 21 seconds in the furlong.

Shifton Baker had his best time of the season in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles, placing fourth at 51.6. Teammate Curtis Collier had a 52.2 in the same event.

Distance specialist Manfred Kohrs ran a 3:48.1 in the 1,500-meter run, equivalent to a 4:06 mile time. Walter Jachimowicz ran what compared to a 4:09 mile.

"Our guys really feel good about it (the meet)," Nelson said. "This may sound hokey but it really not. Our team spirit is as good as we've had in a number of years."

The Aggies will journey to Austin this weekend to compete in the prestigious Texas Relays. Over 40 university division schools, including all SWC teams, will be present at what is one of the nation's largest meets.

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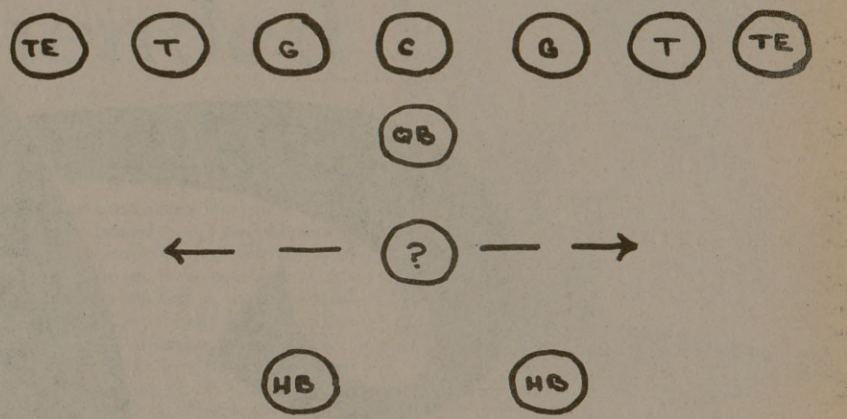


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The Aggies' new "floating bone" formation includes a fullback-split end who may "float" either right or left according to the play. Other formations are in the works as Texas A&M begins spring drills today.

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