

Bits and pieces of useless sports

Bits and pieces of otherwise useless sports information... The Texas Aggie football team lost one of its coaches this week when John Paul Young, linebacker coach for eight years at A&M, accepted a job to coach specialty teams with the Houston Oilers. Young is rejoining coach O. A. "Bum" Phillips. He coached under Phillips at UTEP in 1962 and 1963. In finding a replacement for Young, Athletic Director Emory Bellard announced that R.C. Slocum will move to linebacker coach and Chuck Moser will be reassigned as a fulltime coach, becoming defensive scouting co-ordinator for the Aggies... Sports quiz — what major league baseball team holds the record for being involved in world series sweeps (winning or losing all four games)? Answer to follow...

Even though it was a disappointing season for the A&M basketball team at least the team has something to point at for next year. A&M ended the season second in the SWC in rebounding with 41.4 per year game average. Houston led the league with a 45.4 average... Turning to baseball the official dedication of the new baseball stadium is scheduled for March 21, the day of the Southern Cal game. Get your tickets early and hope the stadium is ready... The new stadium will have bench seats in the upper deck allotted for A&M students. The lower deck seat-

ing will be on a reserved seat basis. At least the aluminum benches up on top will have backs!... Congratulations go out to the SMU golf team, the repeating champions of the Texas A&M Women's Intercollegiate Golf Tournament. SMU went into the final round trailing the University of Texas by two strokes, but behind tournament medalist Mary Beth Murphy's three-day total of 232, SMU edged the 'Horns on the final day. A&M finished sixth with a 998 three-day total... And on to pro sports. The Montreal Canadians, in quest of the record for most consecutive wins, had their record attempt stopped when the New York Rangers snap-

ped their 28-game winning streak Saturday night 6-3. The record still stands at 29 straight victories, at least until next year... Whoever said the Golden Bear was dead didn't watch the Jackie Gleason Inverrary Golf Tournament this weekend. Behind by three strokes going into the final three holes, Nicklaus birdied the last three to win by a stroke over Grier Jones... The NBA Chicago Bulls would rather not play the Portland Trailblazers if Lionel Hollins is against them. For the fourth time in two seasons the Trailblazer sank the shot that gave Portland victory over the Bulls. Sunday was the latest in his feats with a last second shot that gave Portland a 100-99 vic-

tory... Somebody always told me that money will bring out the best in you. The professional baseball teams who usually finish at the top of their divisions also rank at the top of the payroll lists. Philadelphia has the largest payroll in baseball with an annual expense of \$3,498,000 followed by the New York Yankees, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles. The Texas Rangers rank ninth with a 2,100,000 budget and Houston is 20th with a 1,399,000 annual payroll... Back to basketball, the SMU Mustangs played the hardest schedule in the country this season. The Mustangs faced Kentucky (1), Arkansas (4) twice, Kansas (5), Texas (12) twice and Indiana (19). And the

Mustangs have to face Arkansas again in the first round of the SWC tournament Thursday night... Bouncing back to football, the Aggies announced a 1:30 kickoff for all five home games next season. The Aggies face Memphis State Sept. 30, Texas Tech Oct. 7, Baylor Oct. 21, Rice Oct. 28 and TCU Nov. 25... The A&M men's swimming team will travel to Austin Thursday for the SWC championships. The 15-man team will battle SMU and Texas for top honors in the meet that lasts through Saturday... And if you're in Austin this weekend and like to watch good basketball, the state high school championships will be played Friday night and Saturday. All classes from B to AAAA will compete, with the feature game between the AAAA powers Abilene (34-4), San

Antonio Fox Tech (32-5), Houston Wheatley (36-6) and Cypress-Fairbanks (26-10). Abilene faces Fox Tech at 4 p.m. Friday and Wheatley goes against Cy-Fair at 8:30 p.m. The two winners will meet at 8:30 p.m. Saturday to determine this year's champion... The Texas Aggies Ladies basketball team received an at large bid and will meet the University of Texas in the opening round of the TAIWA women's basketball tournament in San Angelo Thursday. The team competed in the East Zone tournament last weekend and lost both of its games. The Aggie Ladies finished the season 17-16 under first year coach Wanda Bender... Answer to the sports quiz: the New York Yankees have been in nine world series sweeps, six on the winning side and three on the losing.

By David Boggan

Way, way out in left field

A few days ago I was in the sporting goods section of a local department store. I needed a baseball glove for an upcoming intramural softball game that I somehow got commandeered into.

green bats. What would the Babe say about bats that go "clank" instead of "crack," I wondered. Then I spoke to the saleslady again.

"Yes, I was just over there. But I need a left-handed glove, and y'all don't seem to have any on the shelf."

She dropped her pricing gun and almost choked on the Reggie Bar she was eating.

"You need a left-handed glove?" she asked as an amused look came over her face and tears developed in her eyes.

"Yes, I was wondering if y'all might have some in the back."

"Just a minute, I'll check." She got up and hurried off toward a door marked EMPLOYEES ONLY. As the door came to a close, I heard a big burst of laughter from the other side.

Ten minutes later the lady emerged onto the sales floor with a cardboard box in her hands.

"These are all the gloves we have for lefties," she said, looking at me as though I was a side show act.

I took the box from her, set it on the floor, brushed the dust off the top and opened it. The box was full of lefthanded gloves. I took one out and was immediately faced with a new problem.

"This glove is barely big enough for a grade schooler," I said to myself. That's when I remembered how I was persecuted in elementary school for being a south paw.

My third grade P.E. teacher, Miss Dextromano, must have thought I was a Communist plot. One day during recess she noticed the sinister manner in which I swung a baseball bat. She immediately rushed over and forced me to stand on the other side of the brick we used for homeplate.

"We're going to break you of that nasty habit, young man," she said as she positioned my right hand above my left hand on the bat. "Now you'll be able to bat better."

Fortunately, Miss Dextromano didn't try to tamper with my throwing arm on that sullen afternoon in

1967, so I maintained some amount of purity. But my new position on the wrong side of the batter's box didn't improve my batting average. My softball team can attest to that.

Well, I finally dug down to the bottom of the cardboard box and found a glove that fit me.

"I'll take this one," I told the saleslady.

"Will this be cash or charge?" she asked as she sacked the glove.

"Cash." Pulling out my checkbook, I took a pen in my right hand, filled out a check and handed it to her as she handed me my package.

"Now wait a minute," she demanded. "You mean you write with your right hand but throw with your left hand?"

"Right," I said, and left.

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