



Sean Petty

Stop and observe the signs of winter

As the first signs of cold weather and the ensuing winter come to Texas A&M University, students tend to act a little differently and become involved in different activities.

One of the first signs of cold weather is the rainbow of letter jackets that appears around campus. Many ex-high school athletes long for that first cold day to be able to show off their awards won in days past. This gives them the chance to boast their former athletic prowess just by walking around the campus.

It is interesting to look at all the different jackets and see what sport a person played or, in some cases, what instrument they played in the band. You may even be able to tell how far a person got in choir.

SOME LETTERMEN feel inclined to pile all the medals they won in track on the jacket. This usually means that the person won only five or six medals his whole high school career.

The letter jacket is the great equalizer. People may not know if you went to an AA school like Snook or a AAAA school like W.T. White. It is all very impressive as long as there is a letter with a few patches on the sleeves.

If you ever get bored in class some time, look around you and read the patches that some people have on their jackets. For instance, "All-State Six Man Football." Or you see this small guy with all of these football patches and you wonder how he could have been so good for being so small? A little more investigating should prove that he was the manager of the team which will be in small print on his letter. Of course, managers and six man football are as important as anything else in Texas high school football.

AND WHILE you are looking at the different patches, look for the imposters. That's right, the patches a person buys to make his jacket look impressive. For instance, patches that say, "All City" when there is no such award to be given in some cases.

You may also notice the guy who tried to get his letter jacket cleaned. He's the guy walking around with stiff sleeves that look like they would break if you tried to bend them.

The cold weather means that men and women will be flocking to the great indoors to get involved in "co-recreational" activities. And I don't mean watching basketball or playing racketball. During this cold period they both feel a certain national pride that brings them "closer together" in order to save energy. Some students even get winter fever which can be as severe as spring fever.

AROUND AGGIELAND it means that Texas A&M fans can watch at least one home football game when the temperature is not in the high 80s. It becomes a lot easier and comfortable to "squeeze Army."

The negative aspect of the cold means that time is running out in the semester and it's now or never as far as studies go.

And more than anything, the cold weather brings on the yearly beaver-like activity in the nearby woods which results in the Aggie bonfire. It means THE game with the infamous t.u. is right around the corner and a time for all "good Ags" to get fired up to beat the hell out of t.u.

THE COLD months also bring a change in our clocks which makes the intramural flag football playoffs interesting. With the sun going down earlier, the team that leads at halftime will probably win the game because the ball and the flags on the players cannot be seen in the second half. Consequently, the team that is winning can fool around in the second half and use the setting sun as part of its strategy.

The cold weather also moves the Aggie fan inside late in the semester as the Aggie basketball team takes to the floor of G. Rollie White Coliseum to start its season.

So as the short winter of the Southwest begins to bear down upon us, and you begin to wonder when this "bitterly cold" weather will end, be thankful you don't go to the University of Minnesota. Enjoy.

Devine named coach of week

United Press International
SOUTH BEND, Ind. — When Notre Dame lost its first two games this season it appeared the Irish streak of consecutive bowl appearances would end at two.

The losses to Missouri and Michigan knocked Notre Dame out of the top 10 ranks and apparently doomed any bid to recover and qualify for a post season game.

Last Saturday, the Irish defeated Navy, 27-7, not in an upset, but in proof of rehabilitation, and the performance earned Coach Dan Devine, in his fourth season with Notre Dame, honors as United Press International's Coach of the Week.

"It was our best game," Devine said. "We put everything together better than in any game this season."

The early season defeats were surprising, but no more so than the recovery. Notre Dame has been hampered by a plethora of injuries and going into the Navy game, Devine wasn't certain which linebackers could play and which couldn't.

But sparked by linebackers Bob Golie and John Hanker, the Irish turned a weak spot into a strong point in handing Navy its first loss of the season. Notre Dame also scrambled for massive yardage against the team that was ranked No. 1 defensively in the nation heading into the contest.

"Our kids got themselves up for the game," Devine said. "They accepted it as a challenge, playing against an unbeaten team and the best defensive team in the country."

"I could sense during the week that they were going to be ready for the game. They have a sense of the importance of games, and they get themselves ready."

Despite the early season defeats, bowl scouts have continued to trail the Irish. Several were on hand in Cleveland for the Navy contest.

"I think week by week our bowl picture is brightening," Devine said. "There are only about three or four teams left in the country who are unbeaten and that makes our 6-2 record look a lot of better."

"I read somewhere that the NCAA had compared schedules and found out we were playing the toughest schedule in the country, so that ought to mean something."

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Aggie notes

Golf team wins

Texas A&M won the Harvey Penick Intercollegiate Golf Tournament Wednesday in Austin. The Aggies scored a 1,112 for the tournament, finishing ahead of Oral Roberts and the University of Texas.

For the Aggies, Dave Ogrin finished fourth in the tourney with a 218.

This is the biggest tournament win for Coach Bob Ellis in his three years at Texas A&M.

The University of Texas Longhorns come to town tonight as the Texas A&M volleyball team hosts the Horns in a duel match in C. Rollie White Coliseum. The match will get under way at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free for students with athletic passes.

The Texas A&M men's cross country team will compete Saturday in a meet in Georgetown. The meet will serve as qualification for the NCAA meet that is to be held Dec. 2 in Madison, Wis.

Running for the Aggies will be Manfred Kohrs, Lane Mitchell, Rick Huggins, Keith Bratten, John Bleyl, Ralph Havens and Kent Wilkner.

The Aggies will host the Eighth Annual Southwest Water Polo Championships Friday and Satur-

day. Coach Dennis Fosdick's Aggies play their first game at 3 p.m. Friday against the University Aquatic Club "A."

Texas A&M recently completed a tour of the East where the team went 6-0 against its competition. The Aggies are hopeful of an invitation to the NCAA championships.

The Texas A&M women's water polo team recently completed competition in the Rocky Mountain Invitational Tournament in Tucson, Ariz.

The Aggies won their first three games, defeating Arizona State 7-4, Coronado 15-2 and Arizona Red Devils 15-3. They were defeated by Tucson Cotton Kings 6-4 and by University of Arizona 10-6. The Aggies finished second in the tournament.

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