

Coach Jackie Sherrill will be leading at least 28 new faces in yell practices next season. That's how many recruits Sherrill signed for the 1984 football squad.

Ags claim blue chippers

and DONN FRIEDMAN

Of the top 10 Texas recruits listed in the Houston Chronicle's Top 100, Texas A&M claimed 4. Needless to say, the first day of signing the recruits to national letters of intent, made Texas A&M Head Football Coach Jackie Sherrill happy. And the highest paid football coach in America should be happy — the Aggies got just about every high school player they thought they would sign.

The top four headlining the list of signees are: wide receiver Tony Jones from Houston Sam Houston, tackle Calvin Whitfield from Dickinson, defensive linemen Shane Dybala from Van Vleck, and defensive linemen Sammy O'Brient from Houston Alief Elsik.

Other highly recruited additions are quarterback Mark Motley from Ore City, and defensive linemen L.B. Moon from Jenks, Oklahoma, defensive linemen O'Neel Gilbert from Monroe, Lousiania, defensive back Tim Landrum from Plano, and running back Jimmy Shelby from Italy.

Sherrill said this was the first year since he has been here that A&M has been able to recruit by position. 'We recruited better this year for our needs," he sai-

d,"our first two years we had to scramble for athletes." Although Sherrill was more than satisfied with the recruiting, it takes a while to for the results to show, he

"You never know till a few years later how good a recruiting class will be,"Sherrill said.

Jones was perhaps the most sought after player by the A&M coaches. Jones, 6-1 180-pounds, has been described by his high school coach Max Wilson as the fastest high school player in the nation. There could be



Shane Dybala Sammy O'Brient

truth behind the words — he has been timed at 10:01 in the 100 meters

That speed is Jones' greatest attribute, Wilson said in a phone interview with The Battalion Wednesday.

"His speed is his #1 plus," Wilson said. Jones might be able to help the Aggies next year, he said.

Sherrill agreed with Wilson's assessment of the re-

"For our needs, Tony is very important," Sherrill said. "He could come in and help us right away. There

is no substitute for speed.' And Sherrill, who watched Jones play four times said Jones has more than just speed. He has good hands and "sheer ability", Sherrill said.

He is not a track player we're trying to make into a football player," he said.

Another blue chipper the Aggies signed was 6-5,

Dybala told The Battalion Wednesday that he picked Texas A&M over Minnesota and Arkansas be-

cause of the facilities here. Minnesota has a quality program he said, but it's way too cold and way too far from his home in Van Vleck.

Arkansas just doesn't have anywhere near as much going for it as Texas A&M, he said.

So, Kyle Field with its impressive dressing rooms and 70,000 plus seating helped convince Dybala to

come to Texas A&M. "In order to have a good team," he said, "you must have good facilities." "Look at Nebraska - they have the

best weight room in the country right now. But, he said, the weight room that A&M has on the drawing board will rival any in the country. Dybala had one more reason for wanting to become a student at

Texas A&M "If you graduate from A&M you are pretty well set," he said.

The Aggies also signed defensive lineman Sammy O'Brient, an all-state player from Alief Elsik High School near Houston.

O'Brient has been watched by recruiters since his

sophomore year in high school even though the teams he played on never made the state play-offs, Elsik coach Mike Sciba told The Battalion.

"If you're a great football player it doesn't matter how your team does," Sciba said. "Sammy's not your run-of-the-mill recruit. His playing ability catches the eye of a lot of people.

Eye catchers were rare this year in Texas. Experts felt this senior class was below average compared to re-cent years. Sherrill agreed. He said this years recruiting class had a strong top 30 players, but then there was a drop off in talent

for a complete list of A&M signees see page 12

Scandal rocks recruitin

United Press International

Six typewritten paragraphs on a piece of paper designed to look like Southern Methodist University stationery disrupted the most serene recruiting season in years Wednesday and touched off a livid protest from Mustangs' coach Bobby Collins.

The phony letter, proportedly written Jan. 12 and signed with a fictitious name, was sent to two SMU recruits including Parade Magazine high school player of the year David Richards of Highland Park

SMU has been under investigation by the NCAA for more than six months and the letter claimed the NCAA had decided

to place the Mustangs on probation for three years and to take away an unspecified number of

scholarships.

"The NCAA has graciously agreed to delay any official announcements of sanctions until after February 9, in order for SMU to salvage its 1984 recruiting," the letter said.

Collins said he was convinced the letter was the work of another Southwest Conference

'We know for a fact that that letter left the desk of a Southwest Conference head coach and ended up in a prospect's home," said Collins. "We know that for a fact.'

We're going to have a good recruiting year in spite of everything that's been said about us," said Collins. "The sad thing is that people just completely forget about the youngsters. It's not right

During the past year both Wacker and Collins have bem o an ed how bitter relationships within the Southwest Conference appear to be and the incident involving SMU appeared to made things even

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football coaches nonorea

EW YORK — Hugh Daugand the late James Tatwo of the nation's best wn college football coaches, to named to the College

ball Hall of Fame. gherty coached at Michi-State for 19 years while Ta-coached for 14 years at Okna, Maryland and North

ugherty compiled a 109record, including unen team in 1965.

tum, nicknamed "Big was struck down by a fatal at 45 in 1958. He coma 100-35-7 coaching re-

atum compiled a 73-15-4 at Maryland, including a team in 1951 which upset essee in the Sugar Bowl. urned to North Carolina 56 and had a 14-15-1 rebefore his death.





