

## 11 Final Dates Announced For Spring Music Meets

Most of the Regional Executive Committees have announced final dates for the various sections of Spring Music Competition-Festivals. Since additional emphasis is placed on entry deadlines by the new system of entry, the State Office is assisting the Regional Committees in publicizing these deadlines.

School officials are reminded that all entries for music competition must be postmarked at least 21 days before the announced date of the competition. This includes the duplicate entry blanks which must be mailed to the State Office this year. Since the rules definitely state a 21-day deadline, the State Office cannot certify entries which are postmarked after this date.

Adequate notice of these deadlines will be given to every one of the 767 schools which filed acceptance cards and are eligible to participate in music competition. This notice consists of letters from Regional officials, notices such as this article in the *Leaguer* and individual notices accompanying the official entry blanks which are being mailed to eligible schools from State headquarters.

Region I is combining all its

instrumental competition on one date. Band marching, concert and solos and orchestra concert and solos are scheduled on May 1. Both original and duplicate entry in these events must be postmarked no later than midnight, April 10. Original entry blanks with fees attached should be mailed to Paul Branom at Lubbock High School. Duplicate blanks must be postmarked by midnight, April 10 and mailed to F. W. Savage, Box 8028, University Station, Austin 12. Vocal competition is scheduled for March 27 and entry blanks must be postmarked no later than midnight, March 6. Originals should be mailed, with fees attached, to R. G. Richards at Lubbock High School and duplicates sent to the State Office.

Region II has set up two identical sections for instrumental competition. Band and orchestra concert and all instrumental solos and ensembles for the western half of Region II will be held in San Angelo on April 30 and May 1 with Homer Anderson acting as contest chairman. Entry blanks must be postmarked no later than midnight, April 9, for an organization to be certified for this competition.

Don Morton of the Music Department at Tarleton State College in Stephenville is acting as contest chairman for the eastern half of Region II and entries in band, orchestra and instrumental solos and ensembles should be mailed to him. The scheduled date for this section of Region II is also April 30, May 1 and the entry deadline is also midnight, April 9.

All vocal competition for Region II is scheduled at Brownwood on April 2-3 with Dorothy McIntosh as contest chairman. Entries in these events must be postmarked no later than midnight, March 12.

All instrumental competition for Region III except marching will be held on May 7-8 with Lyle Skinner of Waco acting as contest chairman. Entries must be postmarked (Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)



J. W. EDGAR  
State Commissioner of Education

## League Role Lauded In School Progress

J. W. EDGAR  
State Commissioner of Education

The University of Texas Interscholastic League has been a great stimulant to public school progress in Texas during the last forty years.

As we focus attention on our public school system's 100th birthday on January 31, 1954, it is especially interesting to think back on what our schools might have become if Mr. Shurter and his debating friends had not met in Abilene to lay the foundation of what is today the largest and best interscholastic organization of its kind in the world.

As the century-old story of our public schools unfolds during 1954, it is hoped that every Texan will receive an appreciation of the League's part in giving vitality to our public schools.

League-sponsored activities have provided public recognition to high achievements in both athletic and literary events.

Some of the happiest memories of school days are connected with "county meets" conducted by the Interscholastic League. Blue, red, and white ribbons won at these tournaments have inspired many a young Texan to make his mark in life. The district and state meets conducted by the League likewise have given stimulus to many a school program. The vast program of extracurricular activities that has resulted from League sponsorship supports the idea that Texans are vitally interested in their public schools and the activities that stem from the schools.

The State Board of Education's responsibility of providing leadership for the Centennial Year observance can be met only through the cooperation of many groups and individuals. The opportunity to join in the historic year-long celebration is available to every citizen.

The plan of celebration leaves enough flexibility for Texans to make of this Centennial Year one of outstanding events in the history of education in Texas.

For example, Chairman John McKee of the Texas Citizens Committee for Public Schools Week reports that the goal for this year is to encourage 1,300,000 Texans to visit a public school during that first week in March. Billboards will soon be going up over the state to proclaim the Centennial as the theme of Public Schools Week.

Hundreds of Texas organizations, large and small, have joined in saying that they will emphasize the Centennial in their activities throughout 1954. Many of these groups have adopted special Cen-

tennial projects. The position of the State Board of Education has been to suggest Centennial projects and ways of doing them. The groups that have had the opportunity to act on these suggestions have been most cooperative and, in many instances, are doing far more than was originally projected.

Our educational system has made a great deal of progress during its first hundred years in Texas.

In practically every instance, however, that progress has been fostered by mothers and fathers who wanted their children to have better and better educational opportunities.

Texas public schools are Democracy in Action. Through the interest and cooperation of citizens throughout the state, our schools will continue to be strongholds of Democracy as they begin a new century of progress.

## Centennial Can Use Sports Enthusiasm

BY WELDON BREWER  
Centennial Committeeman

Athletic events have been called the "front show window" of the schools. It is apparent that large numbers of Texas citizens focus their attention on the public schools because of their great interest in competitive sports. The recognition of this interest in the extracurricular aspects of our educational program becomes particularly important during the Centennial Year of 1954, as Texans celebrate the founding of our public school system.

Texans often manifest their enthusiasm for the public school athletic program with intensity and feeling. Although this enthusiasm may not exist in all school communities, it exists in enough of them to make it unwise to plan our Centennial Year observance without taking this sports interest into consideration. Many of the strongest supporters of the public school program became interested in the public school as a spectator at sports events.

The Texas High School Coaches Association, at the request of the State Board of Education, has accepted the leadership responsibility for emphasizing the Centennial theme in the public school sports program throughout Texas during 1954. The coaches' association, headed by Mr. Pat Gerald of Sweetwater, is receiving the full cooperation of The University of Texas Interscholastic League.

The cooperation of sports writers and editors is also being sought in carrying out this Centennial project. It is an observable fact that more space is used by newspapers as a whole to report public school sports activities than is used to report all other school activities combined. Newspapers are able to justify the great amount of space given to sports coverage because the athletic interests of newspaper readers have created a public demand for sports news.

The question raised here is: How can this great enthusiasm for athletic activities be channeled into lay participation and interest in the educational program as a whole?

Many purposes may be served in commemorating the first century of our public school system in Texas. Among these purposes are:

- (1) To arouse adult interest in and concern for the progress of public education in Texas;
- (2) To secure participation by all age groups in a year-long observance of the Centennial Year; and
- (3) To guide the above interest and participation into a long-range program of cooperative action for better schools.

To help serve these purposes, it is suggested that half-time and pre-game activities at football and basketball games might include historical pageants, pep squad and band formations, dedication ceremonies, and other programs having a Centennial theme.

## Debate Coaches Asked To Submit Preferences

At the annual convention sponsored by the Committee on Discussion and Debate Materials meeting at the Statler Hotel, New York City, December 28-31, 1953, representatives of State Leagues all over

the nation chose problem areas to be submitted to the various states for final vote. The problem areas chosen will furnish the National Debate Topic for next year.

- For three days all of the problem areas submitted were discussed and finally voted on. The three areas chosen by the more than thirty states represented were as follows:
1. How Can Labor-Management Relations Be Improved?
  2. How Can Sufficient Federal Revenue Best Be Derived?
  3. What Should Be the Foreign Trade Policy of the U.S.?

The most popular of these areas was the Labor-Management topic, according to the vote of the representatives at the New York Convention. But the other two were given a good vote, too, and the national area will not be known until all three are submitted to the states for a final vote.

In order to help the University Interscholastic League cast the proper vote for Texas schools, administrators and debate coaches should jot down their preference of the above three areas on a post card and send it to Debate, Interscholastic League, Box 8028, University Station, Austin, Texas—at once!

**Debate Books Sold Out**  
The League office has sold its available supply of Debate Handbooks. Schools desiring the handbook may order them direct from Mr. Robert H. Schacht, Extension Division, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, for 75¢ a copy.

## Ready Writers Given Advice On Coming Spring Contests

BY DR. POWELL STEWART  
Director, Ready Writing

As the time for the spring contests draws near, Ready Writers and their sponsors begin to think of what they can do to prepare for the regional and district meets. All during the first semester, of course, the University Interscholastic League has been sponsoring conferences in Ready Writing at Dallas, Houston, Kilgore, Austin, Odessa, and Kingsville—conferences specifically designed to help improve the writing of possible contestants. But though the attendance was gratifying, not all who will participate in the spring meets were able to attend.

The conferences gave particular attention this year to the subject of paragraphing, the students being given some hints and advice about the writing of good paragraphs, and each then being given an opportunity of putting the advice into effect by writing a paragraph which was read and criticized by a panel of judges.

For the benefit of those who were not present at one of the conferences, a summary of the advice is here presented. It should be an easy matter for Ready Writers and their sponsors to arrange for putting this advice to use and for getting criticism of the results. The best way to prepare for the contest is, after all, to write, submit your writing to competent criticism, learn from that criticism, and then write some more.

**WRITING GOOD PARAGRAPHS**  
Near the first of every expository paragraph there is a statement which raises in the reader's mind a question or questions. The statement may not occur in the first sentence, since paragraphs frequently begin with transitional material linking them to preceding paragraphs; but near the first of every paragraph the reader will find a statement which makes him ask questions of the author. As a result of this fact, the following definition of a paragraph can be arrived at: a paragraph consists of

a complete answer to the questions it has raised in the reader's mind. The remainder of this discussion stems from the above definition. Let us see, first of all, what kinds of questions are raised in the minds of readers, then glance at how problems in paragraphing can be solved by answering the questions in the proper order, and end by considering how the questions raised can best be answered.

Imagine that you pick up a magazine, open it at random, and start reading a paragraph in the middle of a page. The first sentence of the paragraph reads, "The ancient Egyptians believed in the doctrine of metempsychosis." What questions would such a statement cause you to ask of the author? "What would he mean by metempsychosis?" You might, it is true, have other questions later, but until you knew what was meant by metempsychosis, you would not be interested in asking them, let alone in reading answers to them. Thus we have

arrived at the first type of question which a statement near the beginning of a paragraph may cause the reader to ask the author—WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

Now imagine that you have opened the magazine at another place and have come upon a paragraph that begins, "The U. S. need not fear an atomic attack from the Russians." What question would such a statement cause you to ask the author? Clearly, the reader would immediately want to know why the author believed that the U. S. need not fear an atomic attack by the Russians. In this instance the author's meaning is quite clear, but the statement does raise the second type of question—WHY DO YOU THINK SO?

Again, and for the last time, since there are but three types of questions which authors' statements at the beginning of paragraphs cause readers to ask, let us imagine that we open a magazine to a paragraph which begins, "As

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

## Teachers Being Sought For Overseas Positions

The Teacher Placement Service, at The University of Texas, has again been designated as a recruitment center for this area by the Overseas Affairs Division of the Office of the Secretary of the Army. Administrators from the overseas schools will interview qualified applicants by appointment on February 22, 23 and 24, 1954, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily, in Sutton Hall. Application forms may be obtained from Dr. Hob Gray, Director, Teacher Placement Service, Box 8018, University Station, Austin 12, Texas.

Those of you who are interested in teaching abroad should read the following paragraphs carefully and critically in order to determine whether or not you meet all of the qualifications set forth regarding training, experience, certification, and come within the age limits specified.

Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree, 18 semester hours credit in education courses, possession of a valid state teachers' certificate and at least two years recent public school teaching experience at the grade levels or in the subject fields for which you are applying. Minimum age is 25. Maximum age for women—45; for men—55. Single teachers will be given preference because of the scarcity of family type housing in all overseas areas.

The salary is \$350 monthly. Transportation to and from the overseas job is furnished by the government. In most countries, rent-free living quarters are available.

Elementary teachers experienced in teaching several grades are in greatest demand, and will

not only be required to teach several grades, but also the music, art, and physical education. Secondary teachers will teach all courses in at least one subject field and often in two major fields.

Approximately 400 jobs will be available for the 1954-55 school year, with the major portion in the elementary fields. About 10 per cent of this number will be employed in this area.

## Water Problem Provides Worthy Topic for Debate

BY WALTER PRESCOTT WEBB  
Author of "More Water for Texas: The Problem and the Plan"

The *Debate Leaguer* carries a list of fifteen topics suggested by the Administrators Debate Committee for 1954-55. Three of these topics deal specifically with the water problem, while a fourth on conservation would include water as a natural resource to be conserved. The inclusion of so many topics dealing with water indicates the great importance this subject now has for the people of Texas. When this water subject is compared with the other topics suggested, it dwarfs most of them into insignificance.

An increasing population, increasing industrialization and urbanization and particularly the expansion of irrigation have combined to put a severe strain on the available supply of water. Since we have not learned to increase the total amount of water, we can only have more water—and we need it badly—by conserving the surplus that runs

off each year through the rivers into the Gulf of Mexico. Since water has always been free, it is difficult for us to think of it as our most valuable resource, but that is what it is.

During the five-year drought that now seems to be ending, there was not more than one or two of the cities of Texas that did not have a serious water problem, and in more than one of them it became critical.

Because there is no quick solution for a water shortage, it is important for people to understand the nature of the problem, and make preparation over a long period of time for its eventual solution. This means that the young people who study it now in preparation for debate, will prepare themselves for dealing with it when it becomes their responsibility. In short, a study of the water problem now will make a constructive contribution to intelligent citizenship for years to come.

A question dealing with con-

servation—and particularly with water conservation—can be framed so that it will be debatable. There is an abundance of material available on the subject, and much of it can be had for the asking. This material exists primarily in the form of engineering reports made either by the State Board of Water Engineers or by the National Bureau of Reclamation. Through debate, the students will wade through these reports, discuss them with their parents so that in the end both students and parents will have their attention focused on the major economic need of Texas—the need for a more adequate supply of raw fresh water. It is to be hoped that those who make the final selection of a topic will bear in mind that a study of the water resources now may have the effect of averting disaster in the future and of mitigating the effects of the drought which as everybody knows occasionally comes to Texas for a prolonged and unwelcome visit.

## Athletes Cautioned To Choose Wisely

In the days and weeks ahead talented athletes will be submitted to varying degrees of pressure by college alumni, coaches and friends interested in obtaining the services of these boys for their particular schools.

The Southwest Conference, in an attempt to control the all-out endeavors that frequently accompany recruiting of athletes, has adopted the "letter of intent" plan. Once a boy has signed such a "letter of intent" to attend any Southwest Conference school, the other Conference members are not permitted to continue efforts to secure his services.

Each year there are a few high school boys who lose the remainder of their high school eligibility under the provisions of the League's Amateur Rule because they have accepted cash or other valuable consideration for visiting a college campus in order to consider an athletic scholarship.

A "letter of intent" is regarded as promise of valuable consideration for athletic abilities. Any boy signing such a letter is automatically ineligible for further competition in high school athletics.

The "letter of intent" is a fine move for the Southwest Conference and it meets their needs. However, it is in conflict with the strict Amateur Rule under which the League has always operated.

The League is not flatly stating that no high school boy should sign such a letter. It is advocating that any boy who has additional eligibility remaining in spring sports, very seriously consider the decision which is his alone to make.

It may be that he feels he must guarantee himself an athletic scholarship by signing immediately. Or it may be that he chooses to compete for his school in track or baseball and prefers to wait until those seasons are over before signing.

The decision should be made in consultation with his parents and with the help and advice of his local school officials.

This article, then puts all high school officials, coaches, and athletes once again on notice that signing a "letter of intent," acceptance of cash or travel allowances to visit campuses to consider athletic scholarships, or any other violation of the Amateur Rule will result in immediate ineligibility of such boy.

## First Round A-AA Cage Play On One-Game Playoff Basis

For the 1954 boys, Basketball Tournament there will be state championships decided in five conferences. The girls will continue on the plan used in the past, with state championships being determined in Conferences A and B.

This will mean that in boys' basketball 24 teams will be brought to the State Tournament as in the past, with 4 teams each coming from Conferences AAAA, AAA, AA, and A, and 8 teams coming from Conference B.

AA and A there will come 4 regional champions in each conference to the State Tournament.

Conference B will have 8 regions, and each regional tournament will certify a champion to take part in the 8-team State Tournament play-off for this conference.

Competition in girls' basketball is being offered in three conferences, B through AA. Conferences AA and A will be merged into one championship race at the regional level, with eight teams from the united conferences coming to the State Tournament. Eight teams will also come from Conference B.

The State Tournament for boys will be March 4, 5, and 6; the Tournament for girls, March 11,

12, and 13. District championships must be decided two weeks earlier in each case, the boys' deadline date in all conferences being February 20, and the girls' February 27. Regional champions for the boys must be decided by February 27, and for girls March 6.

For the 1953-54 basketball season the State Executive Committee has authorized on a trial basis the following schedule for selecting regional champions in Conferences A and AA for both boys and girls: there will be a one-game playoff on Monday or Tuesday, February 22 or 23, to determine which teams will qualify for the regional tournament to be held the following Saturday.

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 8)



## Conduct Improved

The member schools in football have just closed out the League's best year, so far as good conduct and sportsmanship are concerned. Not a single complaint upon the mistreatment of football game officials was filed with the State Executive Committee during the current season. This is quite a record. In previous years, there has always been some protests and from one to five schools which had to be penalized because of mistreatment of football game officials.

This fine conduct on the part of school officials, participants and fans during the past football season represents a job well done by the coaches, school officials and fans in the 895 schools which have been playing football each weekend in Texas for the past ten weeks.

Let us make a similar record in basketball. There are greater problems in basketball, since fans are close to the playing court and the game officials. Local school administrators may use the public address system to advantage during pre-game announcements to point out the values to be derived from good sportsmanship and good conduct on the part of students and fans. School officials should also see to it that before and after the game the referees and game officials are properly received and treated as guests, especially by the home team. The major responsibility rests with the home team.

## Grade Schools Meet Program Outline Set

**Purpose**  
This suggested plan for public grade school meets has been devised to assist elementary schools in planning their own program for inter-school contests. It is offered in the hope that it will save them both time and effort in organizing and conducting their elementary school contest program. With today's lack of "home chores" and the increased amount of leisure at the disposal of an ever-growing number of grade school pupils, a demand is being felt for an enriched extra-curricula grade school program under the direction of public grade school leaders. "Little League" baseball, elementary school football and numerous other activities have been brought into the grade school program, too often as a result of outside influences and too frequently sponsored by non-school groups.

The League program for public grade schools has grown out of an attempt to satisfy elementary school needs and is coordinated with many subjects now regularly taught in the classroom. The League believes that "competitions organized in a sensible way and surrounded with proper controls" provide much inspiration to all pupils as well as to those talented ones.

**Eligible Schools**  
Only public grade schools which have paid their \$1.00 League membership fee by January 15 are eligible to participate. For definition of Grade School, see Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution and Rules.

**District Organization**  
Any group of member public schools conveniently located may form its own meet. They may organize in conjunction with the regular high school meet or, if they desire, set up an independent meet. The first step is to assemble the principals of the interested schools. If they decide to hold an independent public grade school meet, then an executive committee shall be organized.

**District Committee**  
A grade school district committee shall consist of a director general and all individual contest directors. It is the duty of this committee to enforce eligibility rules, select the proper site and date for the meet and arrange for financing to meet. It should also canvass the schools to discover in which contests they wish to participate and should make sure only those schools on the official list are permitted to enter. The director general shall procure (without charge) from the State Office sufficient copies of the contest director's Handbook to provide one for each member of his committee.

He should also have available several copies of the Constitution and Rules.

**Send to the State Office**  
The State Office, Box 8023, University Station, Austin, should be furnished the name and address of the grade school Director General early in the school year. The date and place of meet and the list of contests to be held and names of contest directors is information that should also be sent to the State Office.

To eliminate the present uncertainty arising yearly regarding grade school district assignments, the State Office is endeavoring to set up a permanent grade school membership list. For this reason, it is important that each grade school Director General send to the State Office a list of public grade schools participating in his meet as soon as possible after January 15.

**Grade School Contests**  
Article VI, Section 5 of the Constitution and Rules lists the contests for which the League provides rules. These contests are: Number Sense, Ready Writing, Declamation, Spelling and Plain Writing, Junior Track and Field, Playground Ball, Junior Tennis, Volley Ball, Picture Memory, and Story Telling.

**Contest Supplies**  
When a grade school joins the League, it will be placed on the mailing list for the Interscholastic Leaguer and will be mailed a copy of the Constitution and Rules. Tests and other supplies necessary for conducting the meet shall be furnished free of charge from the State Office upon requisition from the grade school Director General. Practice or sample tests, spelling lists, etc., may be procured at nominal charge.

**Qualification**  
Public grade school meets are strictly local in character and the contest winners in such meets do not advance to or qualify for any higher meet.

**Eligibility of Contestants**  
All pupils shall be eligible under the provisions of Article VIII of the Constitution and Rules.

**Championship Optional**  
There may be an all-round championship awarded at the public grade school meet at the discretion of the executive committee. See page 26 of the Constitution and Rules.

**Disputes**  
All disputes (except decisions of judges and referees of contests, which are final) among the members of the district shall be settled by the grade school district committee. There shall be no appeal from their decision.



GET MOVING—Just like in the above picture, start collecting material now for your paper's entry in the ILPC's Individual Achievement Award Picture Contest in the near future. Awards are

given for the best feature and spot news photo taken by high school students. The above picture was entered in last year's spot news contest by Jimmy Coldwater, Brazosport High, Freeport.



**ROCKDALE**  
Rockdale placed on probation in football for 1954-55 year for using ineligible players in non-conference "A" games. Action recommended by Football 22 A District Committee.

**BRONSON**  
Bronson placed on probation in basketball for 1953-54 year for violation of basketball code.

**SLOCUM SUSPENDED**  
Slocum High School has been suspended for the 1953-54 season in Boys' Basketball for mistreatment of officials.

**ZAPATA**  
Zapata High School has been suspended in basketball, both boys' and girls' for the 1953-54 season for failure to file eligibility blanks and season reports for the 1952-53 school year.

**KEMP**  
Kemp High School has been disqualified for district honors for the 1953 football season, and placed on probation for the 1953-54 and 1954-55 school years, for violation of Awardees Rule.

There are a few errors in the Constitution and Rules which should be corrected to read as follows:  
Page 117: the basketball Plan, Rule 31; \$7.00 should read \$7.50.  
Please note under the Football Plan, Rule 30, the following dates for the 1954 season:  
Conferences AAAA and AAA—  
First date for fall practice, August 27, 1954.  
First date for playing game, September 10, 1954.  
Conference AA, A, B, Six-man—  
First date for fall practice, August 28, 1954.  
First date for playing game, September 8, 1954.  
Correction, Slide Rule Contest, Rule 6, Grading the contests, Paragraph m (Page 66, Constitution and Rules) should read as follows: "the problem shall be considered skipped and one point shall be deducted."  
Correction, Spelling List, Page 5, column 9, the 30th word should be "scatter" instead of "scotter."



Dear Mr. Kidd,  
Three or four years ago Mr. Glen A. Redfield, at a basketball rules interpretation meeting, explained his method of staying up with the rules. It was to sit down each year, upon receipt of the rule book before beginning of the sport, and to read it in its entirety, marking for further study those parts he was not sure of.

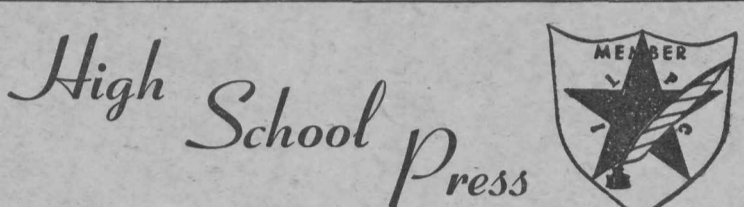
I think it would be well to remind the readers of the Interscholastic Leaguer to do the Constitution and Rules the same way. I have not been closely connected with many phases of League work since 1950, and found that I was "way off base" when I started reading. There are enough changes in the points to the All-Round Championship to well repay one for time spent in reading.

Sincerely,  
Elvin Mathis  
Principal and Athletic Coach

Dear Mr. Kidd:  
Both as a participant and eager learner let me congratulate the League on a very fine Activities Conference in Austin. It may be the first time that Slide Rule and Number Sense were ever covered by such a conference but it should not be the last time. I thought that I may well have to talk to an empty house with the slide rule but it was far from empty.

I think it was wise having a little practice contest for Number Sense and think that the same would be wise in the future with Slide Rule.

Sincerely,  
John Wagner  
Kerrville, Texas



High school newspaper advisers and editors are taking a closer interest in what goes into producing a winning paper.

The midway point of the school year is an excellent time for analyzing efforts of the past semester and setting of necessary objectives during the remaining months of school. To be a winning paper, a school publication must show excellence in all fields—reporting, make-up, editorials, features, sports, headline writing, and complete coverage of school news.

It is not sufficient to have an attractive appearing paper with very little school news on the inside. Nor can a staff produce a winning paper if it reports only the obvious basic facts which most students already know, such as the score of the last game or the fact that an assembly was held, without development of some new interesting fact.

There are additional factors taken into consideration in ILPC judging of school newspapers. The State Office frowns on the use of gossip columns and while it doesn't grade a paper down for carrying a gossip column, it does tend to give extra credit to another paper of comparable size which shows enough initiative and imagination to get plenty of names into print without using the "easiest way out" which happens to be a gossip column.

**COMMON ERRORS**  
A number of shortcomings have been noticeable in papers sent into the ILPC office.

The school's name and date of publication is frequently left out of nameplates and it is almost impossible to identify the school. It is surprising, but a few papers have managed to put out one or two entire issues in which the name of their school was not mentioned. The football team was referred to as the Hornets or Bucs or their appropriate nickname, but the school name was omitted.

Many stories leave questions unanswered. In a report about an assembly program, some reporters

### Speech Topics Suggested For Extemp Practice

Here are some simple extemporaneous speech topics which students may use for practice. Many coaches have received the mistaken idea that these will be the topics used in the Spring Meet Contests. This, however, is not the case. The exact topics will not be revealed until Contest time. The State Office will appreciate receiving suggested topics from both teachers and students interested in extemp speech.

1. Are Farm Prices the No. 1 Domestic Problem in the U. S.?
2. Should the Farmers Be Discouraged?
3. Should the Present Price Support Law Be Extended?
4. Is The Republican Administration Popular With the Farmers?
5. Will Farm Prices Affect the Coming Congressional Elections?
6. Will Spain Make a Good Military Partner?
7. Would a Big Four Meeting Help Bring World Peace?
8. Is International Control of Atomic Weapons Possible?
9. Are the Satellite Russian States Wholly Loyal to Russia?
10. What Big Jobs Face the New Congress?

neglect to tell what kind of a program was or what the speaker had to say.

Same news pattern every issue. A paper is not furnishing much for its readers if it is possible to predict exactly what the paper will contain. There should be a surprise element through use of features, columns, editorials, club news, information from the principal's office.

Full names are not always given. This is particularly true in sports stories.

There is too much personal opinion where facts are needed. Most stories on the beauty queen go on to tell about her bewitching features and claim that the school could not have made a wiser choice, etc. News events should be reported on the basis of fact. They are given sparkle by digging up additional information not known to the average reader and not by tossing in a few laudatory personal remarks.

Leads lack enthusiasm. Many happenings of great interest have the edge taken off by dull leads. One of the other faults most common is the free use of "I," "we," news accounts.

Misuse of by-lines is another common mistake. There is a great tendency of giving a by-line to everybody. The by-line should be a mark of recognition for writing which is above average. In high school publications it is frequently desirable to give by-lines to recognize enthusiasm and hard work which may not be reflected in above average writing. Above all, a by-line should not be given on a poorly written story. This has been done a number of times.

Sports writing frequently is done in a narrow level of emotionalism for the local student body with the referee or bad luck coming in for a good share of criticism. Sports writers need to do plenty of research on the particular games involved to be certain they understand the various methods of offense and defense in both football and basketball and fundamentals of other activities.

Headlines frequently are badly counted with "ragged" lines ruining an otherwise attractive layout. Many of them end in prepositions and are stated in the past tense instead of the present.

Over-use of "is," "was," and other "to be" forms in headlines is another general criticism. Often the headline will contain facts which are not in the story (and may be the score of the ball game). Verb tenses often are mixed.

Chief fault in make-up comes in running stories out from under the headlines. In addition, many papers display stories according to their length and not by importance. Headlines frequently are bunched with the type running together in an almost unreadable mass while the bottom or middle of the pages have a gray appearance with no headlines to break the monotony.

### ALL NOT BAD

Few papers possess all of the above listed faults and nearly all contain some of the errors. It would be just as easy to write a column of the best things in high school papers but it would prove to be of little benefit in planning to improve individual papers before judging time arrives.

## 11 Final Dates Announced For Spring Music Meets

(Continued from Page 1)

no later than midnight, April 16. Entry deadline for Region III vocal competition is midnight, April 10, since the competition is scheduled for May 1 with Mrs. Leta Spearman of Waco acting as contest chairman.

The Region IV Executive Committee is continuing the study of the construction of parallel contests for that area, but have agreed on one section for 1953-54. Orchestra concert competition and all instrumental solos and ensembles including twirling are scheduled to be held in Gladewater on March 13 with Bill Briggs acting as contest chairman. Entry into these events must be postmarked no later than February 20 and in the case of twirlers and band soloists and ensembles, must include either an affidavit previously discussed stating that the parent band will enter the competition, or; the official band entry blanks.

Charles Sheats of Leverett's Chapel and Major H. L. Walker of Kilgore College are acting as co-chairmen for the band concert competition which will be held in Kilgore on April 22, 23, 24. Entry into this event must be made by midnight, March 31, in order to be accepted and duplicate entries must be mailed to the State Office at the same time.

All choral competition for Region IV including solos and ensembles will be held in Kilgore on April 27 with Ken Bennett of Gladewater as contest chairman. Entry into these events must be postmarked no later than midnight, April 6.

All entry blanks for Region V competition should be mailed to the chairman of the Regional Executive Committee, Terrell W. Ogg, P. O. Drawer Z, Freeport. Vocal competition for Region V is scheduled at the University of Houston on March 13 with Dr. Merrill Lewis as contest chairman. Entry blanks for this event must be postmarked no later than February 20.

Since instrumental solo and ensemble competition in Region V precedes the band and orchestra competition and since the rules require that every soloist and member of a small ensemble be a member of a competing organization, it will be necessary for school officials to file additional information at the time entry is made for solo or ensemble competition. School officials should either (1) attach an affidavit stating that the parent organization will enter the concert competition, or (2) attach the official organization entry blanks with fees attached.

Solo and ensemble competition is scheduled at both Beaumont and Houston on March 13 and entry must be made by February 20. Band and orchestra competition is scheduled for Beaumont and Houston on April 10, and entries must be postmarked no later than March 20.

C. A. Wiley is acting as contest chairman for all instrumental events held at Lamar State College. Robert Hammit is contest director for all band events held at the University of Houston and Harry Lantz will direct all orchestra competition at that institution. All competition for instrumental solos and ensembles, band and orchestra in Region VI is scheduled for Alamo Heights High School in San Antonio on March 25-26. Pat Arseners is contest chairman and entry blanks must be mailed to him by midnight, March 4.

Harold Greenlee of Alamo Heights High School is acting as Vocal Contest Chairman for Region VI and will conduct all vocal competition at Alamo Heights on April 29. Entry blanks must be sent to him and postmarked by midnight, April 8.

Band solos and concert competition in Region VII is scheduled at Texas College of Arts and Industries at Kingsville on March 19-20. Entries in these events must be postmarked no later than February 27 and mailed to D. L. Woodson, Supt. of Schools in Taft. Duplicates of these entries must be mailed to the State headquarters at the same time.

Orchestra concert, solo and ensemble competition and all vocal competition will also be held in Kingsville at Texas College of Arts and Industries. The date for this competition is March 27 and entries must be mailed to the Re-

gional Executive Committee Chairman, D. L. Woodson, no later than, March 6.

Charles Nickell of Goliad, Mrs. Marjorie Bounds of Kingsville and Littleton Scott of Robstown are contest directors of band, orchestra and choral competition, respectively, working with Dr. L. W. Chidester and the staff of the Music Department at Texas A&I.

High school choral competition in Region VIII will be held in Odessa on March 20 with Rex Carnes acting as contest chairman. Entries in these events must be postmarked no later than February 28.

All Region VIII Junior High School competition will be held in Odessa on March 26 with J. R. McIntire of Bowie Junior High School acting as contest director. Entries, both original and duplicate, for these events must be postmarked no later than March 5.

Band marching, concert performances and instrumental solos and ensembles for high schools are scheduled at Midland on March 27. Ralph Mills of Midland is contest chairman and entries must be mailed to him by midnight, March 6.

James R. Murphy of Brownsville is contest director for all Region IX instrumental competition to be held on April 9-10. Entries in these events must be postmarked no later than midnight, March 19.

Beverly Hansen of McAllen will act as contest director for Region IX choral events scheduled for McAllen. Vocal solos and ensembles will be held on April 30 and organization competition will be conducted on May 1. Entries for solo competition must be postmarked no later than April 9 and entries for organization competition should accompany them since soloists and members of ensembles must be members of competing organizations. If a choir does not enter any soloists or ensembles, the entry may be postmarked as late as midnight, April 10.

All divisions of solo and ensemble competition, twirling, vocal and instrumental in Region X will be conducted in Denton on April 24. Entries for these events must be mailed to Floyd Graham at North Texas State College by

midnight, April 3, and must be accompanied either by the official entry of the band, orchestra or choir or by an affidavit stating that the organization will be entered in the competition.

All organization contests will be held in Denton on May 1 and if no soloists or ensembles are involved, entry blanks may be mailed as late as midnight, April 10.

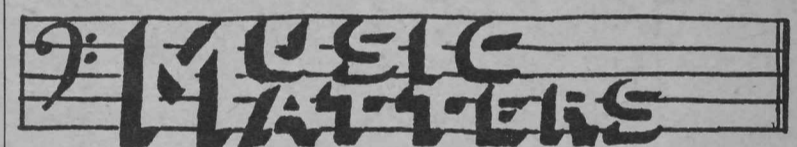
All music competition for Region XI will be conducted at West Texas State College in Canyon with Dr. Jerry Newman acting as contest director. Instrumental solos and ensembles will be held on April 3 and entries must be mailed by midnight, March 13. These entries must be accompanied by an affidavit stating that the parent organization will enter the competition which follows.

Vocal competition including solos and ensembles will be conducted on April 8-9 and entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, March 18.

Region XI band concert and marching and orchestra competition is scheduled for April 22-23 in Canyon. Entries for these events must be postmarked no later than April 1 but may accompany the solo and ensemble entries in lieu of the affidavit previously mentioned.

Attention of all school officials is called to the form of the new entry blanks. All entry blanks must be made out in duplicate and the duplicate mailed to the State Office on or before the deadline for official entry. Either the Superintendent of Schools or the Principal of the unit concerned is required to sign both copies of the entry blank. This signature is required to make the eligibility certification valid. This certification reads as follows:

"I hereby certify that: (1) the students listed on the foregoing pages are eligible under Article VIII of the Constitution and Rules and the Music Plan, (2) that the fees of the above named school in the University Interscholastic League have been paid for the current year, (3) that the students listed in Section I of this blank constitute no more than 20 per cent of the number of students listed on the (organization) entry blank, and (4) that those students listed in Section II have been duly certified from a District Audition."



During the month of January, every school unit which filed a music acceptance card and is eligible for music competition during 1954 will receive a package of music materials from the State Office.

This is the first time such a distribution has been made. These packages are directed to Principals of AAAA and AAA High Schools and CC and C Junior High Schools and to the Superintendents of Schools for AA, A, B and D High Schools.

The package contains an adequate supply of entry blanks which will make it possible for duplicate entry to be made for every type organization which might enter. If perchance there are several of the same type organizations in one school unit, it will be necessary to either duplicate the blank or write the State headquarters for additional blanks.

In addition to these entry blanks, the package will contain a leaflet stating specific instructions for entry including the dates for competition and the deadlines for entry in your Region. The package will also contain a list of eligible schools in your Region.

It is sincerely hoped that by adopting this procedure and publishing the dates, deadlines and instructions, we can avoid some of the unpleasant incidents which have already occurred this year relating to entry, certification and a general lack of knowledge of the regulations.

### SOLO AUDITIONS

Due to the press of time, the State Office is concluding its survey of eligible schools concerning their preference in methods of entering soloists. Only a few schools in the State have designated their intention of entering more than 20 per cent of their competing organizations as soloists. Regional Executive Committees are being informed of the location of those schools and the anticipated number of soloists so that Auditions may be set up.

An even fewer number of schools adopted Alternate No. 3

(see the Example under Section 1, page 88 of the Constitution and Rules) and elected to ask the Regional Executive Committee to provide an auditor to hear their entire organization and select those soloists who are capable of Regional performance. This fact indicates that most directors prefer to handle their own audition problems.

### LETTERS

Pat Arseners of Alamo Heights High School in San Antonio writes us a letter containing several constructive suggestions for improvement. Among other things he suggests the publishing of a separate bulletin containing only the rules concerning music competition. Referring to this bulletin, he says, "Most important of all is that in the bulletin a standard of some sort should be set up regarding the judging of marching bands. I find some Regions judging on the point system whereas in others they follow no system of evaluation at all. My suggestion would include a point system for each of the Subdivisions as outlined on the UIL sheet, plus a detailed explanation of the required movements. Some regions, for example, argue that a diminished front means the lessening of members in the rank."

"Concerning the twirling" continues Arseners, "which seems to be snowballing into a terrific headache for all, why not a definite classification system, as... Class I—High School twirlers; Class II—Junior High School twirlers; and, Class III—first-year twirlers, only. I judged several weeks ago any number of Class 3 twirlers who by their own admission had been to several other contests. Personally, I believe only one classification for twirlers the best system."

What do you think of these ideas? Would you be willing to pay approximately 75c to get a bulletin which contained all the rules and regulations concerning music competition plus the prescribed lists of music effective for the year?



Published eight times a year, each month, from September to April, inclusive, by the Bureau of Public School Service, Division of Extension, The University of Texas.

R. J. KIDD, Editor  
W. J. HARDING, Assistant Editor

(Entered as second-class matter November 6, 1927, at the post office at Austin, Texas, under the Act of August 24, 1912.)  
Subscription rate is \$1.00 per year.





We have been receiving a number of requests for the titles of "winning plays." Like "winning plays," there is no such thing until the performer or speaker brings the selection alive with the assistance of the sponsor or director. This month, since so many play directors are also declamation sponsors, we will discuss this matter of senior declamations.

You no doubt have had students come to you and say, "Teacher, I am not very good in delivery, so I want a strong declamation; the declamation must carry me." And when you give them the very best you can find (perhaps the State Winner of the year before) they still finish last in your local competition. Such students have the wrong conception of declamation. The speaker must carry the declamation, not the declamation the speaker.

The Constitution and Rules for 1953-54 lists on page 39 the Standards for Declamation. Every sponsor should read those carefully. These guides listed for judges include Interpretation, Effectiveness, and Bodily Mechanics. Interpretation is, of course, a very important point in declamation. The speaker must give the audience the right spirit, the emotional coloring, and the attitude toward the subject intended by the author. The student must have a desire to communicate, must have direct, natural, sincere delivery, and must have a declamation suitable to him. He must have ease and naturalness in body movement, must have effective volume, pitch and rate in his speaking voice, and on the whole pronounce his words distinctly without being affected or unnatural.

Thus we see there are three things involved in making a declamation a success: thought, composition, and delivery. The thought of the declamation means the ideas to which the declamation gives birth. It may make deductions from the pages of history; or it may show new relationships between ideas. Again, it may express great sentiments which are universally recognized. Or a declamation might be philosophic in its discussion of great political, social, religious and moral problems. Many declamations emphasize leadership, and help speakers and audiences alike to crystallize their sentiments and convictions. Unless the declamation comes up with a number of these ideas, it is not worth bothering with and will prove to be a waste of time.

Composition involves the manner in which the author clothes his ideas. A good declamation needs to have a refreshing style, yet flow along with a good deal of the finest style our language has to offer. One expert has said that the style of declamation should be akin to that of poetry. The Senior Declamation is not poetry (orations are emphasized in this division) but it should have qualities of poetry: metaphor, simile, climactic series, balance and proportion, sublimity of diction, alliteration, and other accepted figures of speech. Earlier we have said that effectiveness and interpretation in delivery were perhaps the most important factors in making a successful declamation presentation, but when the declamation is a strong one, then the speaker has even more opportunity to be effective. Selection of the material to use is important. As has been stated, unless thought of the selection is worthwhile, much work on such a selection is not very rewarding; the same can be said of the composition. Unless that thought is couched in excellent style, the student and teacher should look around for another selection. One of the purposes of senior declamation is to learn and use effectively the best in English prose style.

Delivery is the instrument through which the declamation is given. Thought and composition lay ground work for success in delivery. We have all seen and heard excellently written and composed declamations fall flat because of poor delivery. Even the Philadelphia Symphony sounds terrible on a poor record player. As has been pointed out in the Standards given in the Constitution and Rules, the whole personality is concerned in delivery. Perhaps the biggest drawback for most students in really effective delivery is the fact that they are too interested in them-

selves and not enough in others. They lack the desire to please, the desire to communicate, a real interest in getting some worthwhile ideas into the open so that they can share those ideas in a constructive way with his audience.

There must be a definite evidence of a natural and sincere liking for people. This is, of course, not an overt physical action—such as one might expect at the station when close friends or lovers are arriving from a long journey—but much of that same genuine spontaneous atmosphere of genuine liking for the audience must be present in the overtones of delivery. We have all heard the criticism that the speaker was brilliant, but cold. What he lacked was probably this humanness of spirit and genuine concern for other people. An analysis of winning declamations shows that they generally have learned the idea of sharing, and the genuine meaning of kindness, tact, thoughtfulness, and sincerity. Emphasis on such qualities as these (in many cases teachers and students will have to undergo a psychological change to a new viewpoint in life) are wholesome personality development ideas—and, incidentally, with speakers who have such viewpoints in life, teachers need not be concerned about winning declamation contests, for they will win their share.

## Ready Writers Given Advice On Coming Spring Contests

(Continued from Page 1)

every schoolboy knows, there are lions in Africa." We know what the writer means, we know why he thinks that there are lions in Africa (everyone knows there are), but one question we do ask, in any one of a number of forms: "SO WHAT?" or "Why should I be interested in the fact?" or "What is the importance or significance of what you say?"

Of course, a statement by the author at the beginning of a paragraph may sometimes raise more than one of these questions. "I believe that Americans should adopt the ancient Egyptian belief in metempsychosis" would cause a reader to ask not only, "What do you mean?" but also the question "Why do you think so?" And the statement "Americans need have no fear that the ancient Egyptian doctrine of metempsychosis will become a wide-spread belief" would lead us to ask all three types of question. Most paragraphs, however, have statements near their beginning which raise only one or two of these questions.

If you know what question or questions you have raised in the reader's mind, you should be able to write good paragraphs. For all you have to do is answer those questions, fully and clearly. The order in which you answer them will be the order in which they are raised: (1) What do you mean? (2) Why do you think so? and (3) So what? If you learn to recognize what questions you raise, and then proceed to answer them in the proper order, let us see how many problems of paragraphing will automatically solve themselves.

You have all heard, I am sure, that a paragraph must have Unity, Coherence, and Emphasis; and perhaps you have even memorized a definition of each of those three cardinal virtues. But many of you may not be really sure what they mean, and even less sure about incorporating them into your own writing. But if you follow the system of answering the questions you've raised near the first of your paragraph, you'll not have to worry further about those qualities. Unity? That means, when applied to paragraphing, sticking to the subject of your paragraph. And what is the subject of your paragraph? Why, the answers to the questions you've raised, to be sure. So you can obviously achieve Unity by answering the questions you've raised. Coherence, though, is not quite so simple. It will not necessarily result automatically from attempting to answer the questions you raise, for Coherence has to do not only with logical order of the statements made but with so linking them that their order and logic are made clear to the reader. But the questions themselves are in

## Many Sources Responsible For Debate Change Proposals

The proposed changes for debate commencing in September 1954 have come from many sources. The special committee for New and Improved Contests appointed by the Texas Speech Association in cooperation with the University Interscholastic League consisted of: Mrs. N. N. Whitworth, Amarillo High School, Chairman; Verna Harris, Midland High School; Dr. Crannell Tolliver, WTSC, Canyon; and Bruce Roach, ULL, Austin.

The suggestions of this Committee were submitted to a special Administrators' Debate Selection Committee consisting of Dr. R. I. Williams, Supt., Corpus Christi; Nat Williams, Supt., Lubbock; J. J. Vincent, Supt., South Park, Beaumont; Chester O. Strickland, Supt., Denton; E. B. Morrison, Supt., Cuero; T. E. McCallum, Supt., McAllen; J. C. Larkin, Supt., Valley Mills. This committee had a number of suggestions to offer in addition to some very pertinent information on choice of debate topic. (This committee will continue to function in helping choose the yearly debate question, suggesting ideas for promotion of debate, and looking after debate in general.) The special committee appointed by the Advisory Council for consideration of New Contests and other Literary Activities consisted of Terrell W. Ogg, Freepert; Q. M. Martin, Carthage; E. B. Morrison, Cuero; and R. B. Norman, Amarillo.

In addition to all of these people, countless numbers of debate coaches from all three Conferences were consulted regarding the proposed changes. Then the

whole thing was submitted to the Interscholastic League Advisory Council (the twenty-three representatives from every region in the State) and to the Executive Council for final approval. Here is how the proposals stand at present:

### PROPOSED DEBATE PLAN

1. PROPOSITION: Voted on and selected by League schools in the Spring.

2. REPRESENTATION: The debate contests in the League shall be conducted in one division in Conferences B, A, and AA. Each AA school shall be allowed to enter 3 teams in District competition; each A and B school shall be allowed to enter two teams in District competition.

All teams may be made up of 2 boys, a boy and a girl, or 2 girls. There shall be no divisions on the basis of sex.

3. ELIGIBILITY: Each debater entered must be eligible under Art. VIII of the Constitution.

4. ELIMINATIONS: The District Debate Contest shall be scheduled so that each participating team shall debate at least 3 rounds of debate. This may be done on a round-robin basis, with the highest ranked teams at the end of the 3 rounds entering straight elimination debates; or, each team may debate every other team in the contest and the winner declared by picking the team with the highest percentage.

5. CHOICE OF SIDES: Sides shall be determined by mutual consent, or by lot, and shall be decided

as soon as practicable before each debate.

6. DISTRICT ORGANIZATION: Temporary chairman for District Debate shall call a meeting of all participating schools in the District as early in the Fall as possible, preferably not later than November 21st. At this meeting, a District Executive Committee on Debate shall be created, composed of the School Superintendent, or Principal, for each participating school (or a duly authorized representative of the school appointed by the Administrator and acceptable to the rest of the Committee). A member of the Committee shall not act in a case in which his school is in dispute. In case of new districts and vacancies, temporary appointments may be made by the State Office. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to call the Organization Meeting.

7. DUTIES OF THE DEBATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The Debate Executive Committee shall enforce the rules and regulations concerning debate; settle all disputes and questions arising in the District concerning debate; and authorize official certification of winners to Regional tournaments. Preferably, this Committee shall be made up of representatives of all 3 conferences, so that the three conferences represented in each district may hold the District Debate Tournament on the same day, at the same site, in order to secure the best judging possible, and eliminate duplication of administrative effort.

There shall be no appeal from any decision rendered by this Committee concerning the District Tournament.

8. REGISTRATION: Each participating school must have in to the State Office a signed Acceptance Card for Debate by the 15th of October each school year.

9. DATES FOR TOURNAMENTS: District Tournaments shall not be later than February 13th.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS shall not be later than February 27th.

STATE TOURNAMENTS shall be held March 12-13 (second weekend in March), in Austin.

10. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS: Each AA school shall be allowed to enter 3 teams in District Competition. Each A and B school shall be allowed to enter 2 teams in District Competition.

Each district shall be authorized to advance 2 teams in each Conference (total of 6 teams—2 AA, 2A, 2B—to the Regional Tournament). The Regional Tournament shall be conducted in the same manner as the District Tournament (see 4: Elimination).

Each Regional Tournament shall advance 1 AA team, 1 A team, and 1 B team to the State Finals. At the State Finals, at least 3 rounds of Debate will be held for all teams, before determining the teams for the final championship debates.

11. INVITATIONAL DEBATE MEETS: Schools may attend as many Invitational Tournaments in the Fall and Winter as feasible. (Schools are encouraged to attend at least 2 of these).

12. TIME FOR DEBATES: Main speeches shall be 7 minutes; Rebuttals shall be 4 minutes.

### MAIN

Affirmative, 7 minutes  
Negative, 7 minutes  
Affirmative, 7 minutes  
Negative, 7 minutes

### REBUTTAL

Negative, 4 minutes  
Affirmative, 4 minutes  
Negative, 4 minutes  
Affirmative, 4 minutes

13. JUDGES: It is the duty of the Debate Executive Committee to provide judges acceptable to all schools. Preference should be given to mature adults who have shown evidence of civic responsibility, or who have had debate training. Critic judges may be used; or 3 or other odd number of judges may be used.

(Note: Other routine regulations, such as substitutions; no cheering; no coaching during a debate, etc., shall be the same as in the present Debate Plan).

And so it goes from debate coaches all over the state. . . . Next month a number of reactions will be published. If you have any suggestions, be sure to write the State Office about them. Send all letters to Debate, Box 8028, University Station, Austin, Texas.

## News and Views of the Coaches

BY STAN LAMBERT  
Public Relations Director

Texas High School Coaches Ass'n

The board of directors of the coaches' association, under the leadership of President Pat Gerald, really put the big pot in the little one as it drew up the blueprint for the 1954 coaching school at its winter meeting in Dallas last month. We firmly believe that this will be the biggest and best coaching school in the association's long and successful history. We make that statement and base that prediction on the following factors:

1. It has the largest and best football staff in the school's history. We believe that we can make that statement without offending any of the instructors in past schools because it is the largest (seven), the most comprehensive (covers single wing, the conventional T and split T), and has representatives from the Rose, Cotton and Sugar Bowls. To borrow one from the cigarette ads, "No other (past) school can make that statement."

2. It is being held in Dallas for the first time in 20 years. This North Texas metropolis has been the association membership's first choice for the past several years, but it took Dallas this long to make a real bid for the school.

3. The all-star Reunion, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the North-South football game, will add considerable interest, and having the Reunion in the city where the game was born in 1935 make it a "natural" from a publicity standpoint.

4. The 20th all-star football game and Reunion will be held in the fabulous Cotton Bowl. Playing the game here is symbolic of the growth of both the association and the all-star contest. Although the first one was played in Dallas, it was not in the Cotton Bowl (which had not been born then itself), but in the Highland Park stadium to a few over 3,000 fans.

5. Postponing the school a week will not only allow coaches with summer jobs to work a week longer but will also put the coaching school a week closer to the opening of football practice. It should be a popular move.

### SEARCH GETS CRITICAL

The selection of instructors hit an early snag. McConachie's poll of the membership revealed that Neely and Dodd were head and shoulders above all other possibilities; but McConachie also had a letter from Neely stating that he was already committed to conduct a clinic in Hawaii July 29 to Aug. 8. Newspapers had carried the story that Bobby Dodd would be in Hawaii with Neely. That news started a general head scratching.

Someone suggested getting a pro coach, and Paul Brown was contacted; but he said that his practice started July 29 and he could not come. Then Pat Gerald came up with, "By golly, we'll just change the date of the school so we can get Neely and Dodd." The next move was to contact Neely and see if he could come if the school were postponed a week. The Hawaiian school was supposed to last through Aug. 8 making it impossible for him to be in Dallas on the 9th. Then the compromising began because both parties wanted to get together. Finally Neely said that if his assistants could hold down the fort Sunday and Monday that he would arrange to fly back in time to take over Tuesday.

Half of the battle was won, but Dodd had not even been contacted. The call to Atlanta explained the whole setup to Bobby, who finally said that if Neely could work on that tight a schedule that he could too.

Then the board agreed on Red Sanders of UCLA for the single wing lectures. McConachie had a letter from him stating that he would be available the first week in August—but that date had been made since he was working out of the Rose Bowl. Ten days later Mac got in touch with him and he agreed to come on the new dates. Well that's a (very) brief of how the 1954's instructors were obtained.

### MORE ABOUT DODD

The telephone conversation with Bobby Dodd will also be of some general interest to our readers. After we told him what we wanted and that Neely had agreed to speed up the Hawaiian trip a little if he would, he said, "I hesitate to come for another reason. Really I don't change. Sanders was incommunicado much coaching on the field anymore. I analyze the scouting reports, plan the overall workouts,

conduct staff meetings during the day, plan the overall strategy, and then when we get on the field my assistants do most of the actual coaching. Really Broyles knows more about our line play and really put the big pot in the little one as it drew up the blueprint for the 1954 coaching school at its winter meeting in Dallas last month. We firmly believe that this will be the biggest and best coaching school in the association's long and successful history. We make that statement and base that prediction on the following factors:

The board appreciated his honesty and frankness. So it met his terms. As a result of the whole series of complications we believe that the coaches' association was the winner. Despite the restrictions by the various conferences, we believe we have the best coaches for this particular year. Being almost forced to use staff men on Monday will fill in a gap that many high school coaches have felt we needed all along because it is true that the assistant coaches have something to offer that the head men do not have—and some of their contributions will be closer to answering the high school coach's problems than those of the head coach of a large college staff.

The change in the dates caused a complication with the Dallas hotels. They had kept the first week in August free of other conventions; but the Baker had booked a national convention of poultry raisers, and the Adolphus had 600 Homemakers booked for that week. After advising them of the change in the dates, the hotel officials threw up their hands at first, but later pledged to do the best they could under the circumstances.

That fact should be the hint to the wise that is sufficient. The membership in past years has been reluctant to pre-register and make hotel reservations in advance. Those who feel even fairly sure that they are coming should pre-register with Exec. Sec. L. W. McConachie.

### FUTURE PROBLEMS

The coaching school and all-star games have grown so much that we are now to the point where it begins to appear that the school is going to have to be planned at least two years in advance.

## Postscripts on Athletics

DR. RHEA H. WILLIAMS  
State Athletic Director

The 1953 season is behind us and it was a very successful year in all respects. Attendance was up to par in all conferences in spite of two very cold, rainy weekends, and in Conference A and Conference AA the attendance increased about 15 per cent over the 1952 season. It is interesting to note that the state championship series in Conferences A and AA are drawing more and more paying spectators each year. The season is still too long for Conferences A and AA schools, but we hope that in a few years the number of districts can be reduced from 32 to 16, thus shortening the season. It is still a marvel how smoothly and consistently our state and regional football championships proceed. This is a high compliment to our Texas school administrators and coaches.

### Play at Home

One trend became prominent during the past season which this column has long advocated—that where possible all state championship games should be played on the home field of one of the competing teams. This year a large majority of games in the state championship series were played on home fields. The championship AAAA Conference game was played in Houston (home of Champion Lamar High School), and the Conference AAA championship game was played at Port Neches (home of the champion). The Conference A championship game was played at San Marcos (home site for Luling, the runner-up) only 25 miles from Luling. It has always been the thinking of this column that at least one school should not have to travel to a championship series game, and from experience it is fairly well proven that if a fan is going to travel to a game he will go re-

## Masonic Home Athletes Prove Scholars, Too

The scholastic abilities of athletes have often turned out to be the butt of some jokes.

However, there can be no joking of the scholastic achievements of the Masonic Home (Fort Worth) athletes.

A recent story in the Fort Worth Star Telegram carried these interesting figures:

"Masonic Home of District 11-B has 25 boys on its football roster.

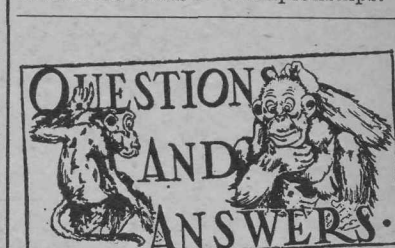
"Fifteen of the 25 (60 per cent) made the school's scholastic honor roll this fall. Three, Max Blankenship, Jim Young and Charles Worthington made all A's. Two, Evans and Milton Halbert, missed making all A's with one B each.

"All seven Masons named to the 11-B all-district first team also made the honor roll. Backs Jim Bowlin, Evans and Joy Lloyd and Linemen Jim Young, Marion Hicks, Quin Eudy and Bruce Riddle.

"Between study halls the Masons played enough football this fall to win their third straight district and bi-district Class B championships."

Question: Does participation by a B squad in a basketball tournament count as one of the three tournaments a high school team is allowed to enter?

Answer: This interpretation involves Rule 11 of the Basketball Plan, and the team-rule definition, Article VII, Section 23. Schools may enter an A squad which is competing for League honors, and a B squad which is not competing for League honors. Each of these squads may enter three tournaments but they must be kept separate and distinct from each other, and no boy may play in more than three tournaments per season. Any team which uses a boy who has played in more than three tournaments has violated the tournament rule.



COLLEGE STARTS CHECKED AUSTIN, (Spl.)—The University of Texas will conduct a three-year project to learn the ideas of parents, educators and religious leaders on how to help new students get better starts in college work.

gardless of the distance. If school bands and students travel to games, why make two schools plan transportation and other details? Once you are organized and on the road another hundred miles or so is nothing to students. Besides, you will have better attendance playing on home sites, as you pick up very few spectators from neutral cities where games are played. The people most interested in getting schools to play on neutral sites are usually Chambers of Commerce and their interest in such matters is obvious.

Some schools, particularly in Conferences A and AA, do not have adequate seating facilities for championship games and must play on neutral sites. However, this column is happy to report that more and more schools are building adequate seating facilities, and sometime in the future we may see all championship football games played on home sites.

### Victory vs. Receipts

Schools which compete in the state championship races seldom make much money, and in fact some do well to come out even. This column has seen in many instances schools turn down favorable financial terms and conditions when they felt that such an agreement might decrease their chances of winning. Any person who thinks a school works for a state championship in order to load the financial coffers is just mistaken. True, some schools have made large returns from a championship team, but this is the exception rather than the rule.

The American competitive spirit which dominates our entire philosophy of life is the guiding impetus that produces state champions in football or life. The community school, coaches, students and players had rather be the best (that is, state champions) than to have any other award.



# Three East Texas Teams Win State Football Titles

East Texas football teams came up with three of the four state conference championships for 1958.

Lamar of Houston, Port Neches, and Huntsville came up with the AAAA, AAA, and AA championships respectively while Ranger won the Class A title. Each of the three East Texas teams defeated a West Texas finalist, while Ranger saved West Texas from a shut-out with a victory over Luling in East-Central Texas.

Lamar won its quarter-final contest against Port Arthur on penetrations after the teams had battled to a 14-14 tie. The following week, Odessa ended up with the same score against Woodrow Wilson but won on first downs after the two teams were tied on penetrations.

Lamar then defeated Odessa in Houston by a score of 37-7. In the AAA race, champion Port Neches also had a tie game as it battled its way into the finals. Penetrations decided the semi-final game between Port Neches and Edinburg after it ended in a 7-7 deadlock.

Port Neches then rose to defeat heavily favored Big Spring, 24-13, in Port Neches. Free-wheeling Big Spring had previously beaten Brownwood, 54-12, and Gainesville 44-13.

Huntsville defeated Ballinger, 40-6, to take the Class AA crown. Ballinger got a slow start in the season and suddenly found itself rolling to a district championship and an impressive playoff record.

The Conference A championship game was the free-scoring game indicated by the playoff performances of both teams. Ranger defeated Luling (34-21, after both had comparatively easy times reaching the playoff game. Ranger, however, did have trouble getting past McCamey by a 13-7 score. Its other two games were won over Albany (41-14) and Sundown (47-6).

## CONFERENCE AAAA

District winners in this conference were: Odessa, Bowie (El Paso), Paschal (Ft. Worth), Woodrow Wilson (Dallas), Waco, Ray (Corpus Christi), Lamar (Houston), Thomas Jefferson (Port Arthur).

Quarter-final results were: Odessa 34, Bowie 7; Woodrow Wilson 21, Paschal 19, Waco 28, Ray 13; Lamar 14, Port Arthur 14 (Lamar won on penetrations). Semi-final results: Odessa 14, Woodrow Wilson 14 (Odessa won on first downs 15-13); Lamar 12, Waco 7.

In the state championship game played at Houston on December 19, Lamar won over Odessa by a score of 33-7.

## CONFERENCE AAA

District winners in Conference AAA were: Big Spring, Brownwood, Gainesville, Kilgore, Temple, Port Neches, Edison (San Antonio), Edinburg.

Quarter-final results were as follows: Big Spring 54, Brownwood 12; Gainesville 14, Kilgore 14 (Gainesville won on penetrations); Port Neches 12, Temple 0; Edinburg 20, Edison 13.

Scores in the semi-final matches were: Big Spring 44, Gainesville 13; Port Neches 7, Edinburg 7 (Port Neches won on penetrations).

In the state championship game played at Port Neches, Port Neches won over Big Spring by a score of 24-13.

## CONFERENCE AA

Conference AA district winners were as follows: Phillips, Olton, Childress, Stamford, Spur, Andrews, Fort Stockton, Ballinger, Comanche, Handley, Jacksboro, Hillcrest (Dallas), Terrell, Mt. Vernon, Atlanta, Henderson, Jasper, (District 18 drew a bye), Waxahachie, Huntsville, La Vega (Waco), Lampasas, Rosebud, Gonzales, Brenham, Wharton, La Marque, Nederland, Del Rio, Refugio, Falfurrias, Weslaco.

Results of bi-district matches were: Phillips 20, Olton 20 (Phillips won on penetrations 6-4); Stamford 35, Childress 7; Andrews 45, Spur 7; Ballinger 54, Fort Stockton 7; Comanche 60, Handley 7; Hillcrest 14, Jacksboro 0; Terrell, 46, Mt. Vernon 7; Henderson 26, Atlanta 7; Jasper (won by bye); Huntsville 26, Waxahachie 7; La Vega 21, Lampasas 7; Gonzales 25, Rosebud 14; Brenham 14, Wharton 12; Nederland 21, La Marque 0; Refugio 25; Del Rio 19; Weslaco 17, Falfurrias 0.

Regional play-off scores were: Phillips 20, Stamford 14; Ballinger 40, Andrews 0; Comanche 26, Hillcrest 13; Henderson 12, Ter-

rell 0; Huntsville 19, Jasper 14; La Vega 28, Gonzales 0; Nederland 31, Brenham 6; Refugio 16, Weslaco 7.

Quarter-final matches resulted as follows: Ballinger 20, Phillips 7; Comanche 6, Henderson 0; Huntsville 6, La Vega 0; Refugio 13, Nederland 12.

Semi-final results: Ballinger 20, Comanche 13; Huntsville 13, Refugio 6.

In the state championship game Huntsville won over Ballinger by a score of 40-6.

## CONFERENCE A

District winners were: Memphis, Springlake (Earth), Hale Center, Sundown, McCamey, Sonora, Ranger, Albany, Paducah, Grapevine, Clifton, Richardson, White-wright, New Boston, Canton, Hawkins, Leverett's Chapel (Overton), Newton, Trinity, Cedar Bayou, Franklin, Elgin, Burnet, Luling, A. & M. Consolidated (College Station), Deer Park, Palacios, Boerne, Crystal City, Karnes City, Hebronville, Lyford.

Bi-district scores were: Memphis 18, Springlake 2; Sundown 29, Hale Center 27; McCamey 34, Sonora 13; Ranger 41, Albany 14; Paducah 27, Grapevine 0; Clifton 7, Richardson 0; White-wright 31, New Boston 7; Hawkins 13, Canton 7; Leverett's Chapel 7, Newton 6; Cedar Bayou 35, Trinity 12; Franklin 14, Elgin 7; Luling 56, Burnet 18; Deer Park 28, A. & M. 7; Palacios 18, Boerne 7; Crystal City 13, Karnes City 6; Lyford 26, Hebronville 20.

Regional results were Sundown 20, Memphis 14; Ranger 13, McCamey 7; Clifton 28, Paducah 27; White-wright 13, Hawkins 6; Cedar Bayou 28, Leverett's Chapel 7; Luling 26, Franklin 13; Deer Park 13, Palacios 6; Lyford 34, Crystal City 7.

Quarter-final scores: Ranger 47, Sundown 6; Clifton 13, White-wright 6; Luling 32, Cedar Bayou 12; Deer Park 14, Lyford 6.

Semi-final results: Ranger 21, Clifton 6; Luling 33, Deer Park 7.

In the state championship play-off game Ranger won over Luling 34-21.

## CONFERENCE B

Conference B district winners: Stinnett, Turkey, Whitharral, Meadow, Grandfalls, Coahoma, Bronte, Rochester, Newcastle, Era, Masonic Home (Ft. Worth), Grandview, Gorman, Melvin, Valley Mills, Johnson City, Celeste, Royle City, Sabine (Gladewater), Garrison-Shelbyville-Tenaha (co-champions in District 20, Shelbyville named to represent the district), Forney, State Home (Corsicana), Whitney, Connally (Waco), Chilton, Magnolia, Chester, Sugar Land, Bartlett, Bastrop, Pettus, Tidehaven (ElMaton), Sabinal, La Coste, Ingleside, Agua Dulce.

Bi-district results were: Stinnett 18, Turkey 12; Meadow 34, Whitharral 0; Coahoma 40, Grand Falls 7; Rochester 38, Bronte 19; Newcastle 32, Era 0; Masonic Home 25, Grandview 7; Melvin 46, Gorman 7; Valley Mills 32, Johnson City 0; Royle City 47, Celeste 6; Shelbyville 7, Sabine (Gladewater) 0; Forney 14, State Home 13; Connally 6, Whitney 0; Magnolia 26, Chilton 13; Sugar Land 33, Chester 13; Bartlett 20, Bastrop 14; Tidehaven 67, Pettus 28; La Coste 19, Sabinal 7; Ingleside 41, Agua Dulce 0.

Following are the regional winners in this conference: Region I, Meadow over Stinnett 20-7; Region II, Rochester over Coahoma 46-7; Region III, Newcastle over Masonic Home 34-12; Region IV, Valley Mills over Melvin 12-0; Region V, Shelbyville over Royle City 13-6; Region VI, Forney over Connally (Waco) 19-0; Region VII, Sugar Land over Magnolia 13-6; Region VIII, Tidehaven over Bartlett 45-7; Region IX, Ingleside over La Coste 35-6.

## SIX-MAN CONFERENCE

District winners in this conference were: Forsan 0; Copperas Cove 20, Muncie were: Mobeetie, Bula (Enochs), Jayton, Paint Creek Haskell, Fort Davis, Klondike (Lamesa), Forsan, Lohn, Mullin, Copperas Cove Pflugerville, Center Point, Oklaunion, Collinsville-Allen (Collinsville and Allen were co-champions, and Collinsville was chosen to represent District 14), Palmer, Gustine, Annona, Elysian Fields, New Waverly, Fannett (Beaumont), Friendswood and Wallis were co-champions in District 21, and Friendswood was chosen to represent the district, Nord-

heim, La Pryor, Sharyland (Mission), Oakwood.

Bi-district matches resulted as follows: Mobeetie 45, Bula 43; Paint Creek 58, Jayton 54; Klondike 47, Fort Davis 19; Lohn 56, lin 12; Pflugerville 20, Center Point 20 (won on penetrations 5-3); Oklaunion 44, Collinsville 19; Gustine 28, Palmer 18; Annona 25, Elysian Fields 12; Fannett 66, New Waverly 38; Friendswood 20, Nordheim 12; La Pryor 61, Sharyland 12.

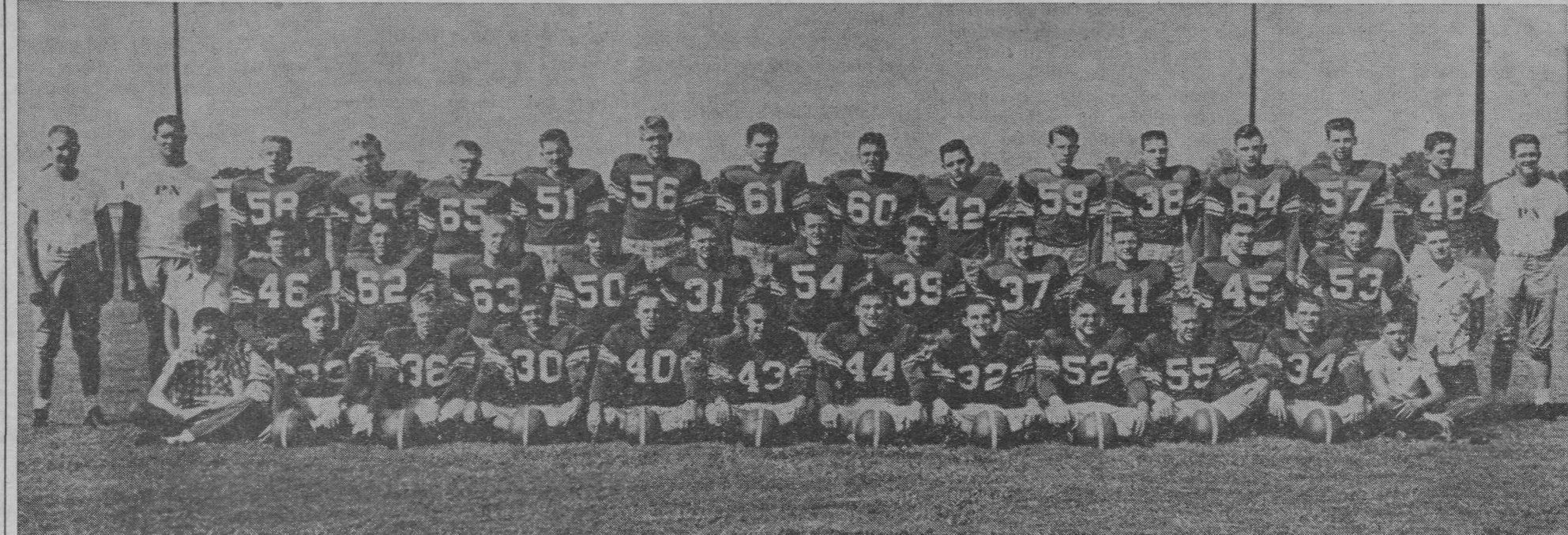
Regional results: Region I, Mobeetie over Paint Creek 54-52; Region II, Lohn over Klondike 58-19; Region III, Pflugerville over Copperas Cove 28-14; Region IV, Gustine over Oklaunion 12-6; Region V, Fannett over Annona 32-20; Region VI, La Pryor over Friendswood 41-21.



**LAMAR OF HOUSTON AAAA CHAMPIONS**—(Left to Right) First Row: Trainer Gene Antill, Rippy Woodard, Walter Bloxson, Bobby Powell, Jimmy Smelley, David Sanders, Bobby Burns, Robert Terry, Preston Weathered, Bill Brock, Charles Spangler. Second Row: Mike Schumacher, Walter Fondren, Mickey Smith, Don Wil-

son, David Coulter, Clarence McIlwain, Lynn Elliott, Jack Cox, Jack Spinks, Joe Bright, James Coulter, Dick Bergstrom, Tom Burke. Third Row: Coach Bob Schulze, Assistant Coach Harold Tate, Jim Johnston, Bill Norman, Hart Peebles, Dick Goss, Dave Williams, Robert Blaine, John Drake, Ray Jarl, Sonny Baumgarten, Glenn Sea-

vers, Ford Smith, Buddy Phillips, Ed Butler, Duncan Simmons, Bud Wall, Eddie Shipe, Wilbur Morris, Terry McKee, Assistant Coach Fred Pepper, Bobby Stillwell, Assistant Coach Bert Kivell. Fourth Row: Managers Tex Morgan, Jerry Passmore, David Lee.



**PORT NECHES AAA CHAMPIONS**—Front Row: Ed Hebert, Manager; Charles Goolsbee, John Wayne Goodwin, Bobby Falgout, Donald Bourque, Louis Matthews, Bobby LaBorde, Jerry Boudreaux, James Blount, Buddy Hammond, Billy Powell, Louis Oliphant, Manager. Mid-

dle Row: David Moore, Manager; Rodney LeBoeuf, Bobby Judice, Sheldon Lee, Winston LeFleur, Billy Joe Hamilton, James Wilson, Ronnie Choate, Gordon LeBoeuf, Earl Sheffield, Jackie Hathorn, James Jimmerson, Charle Dumesnil, Manager. Back Row: B. E. "Gene" McCollum,

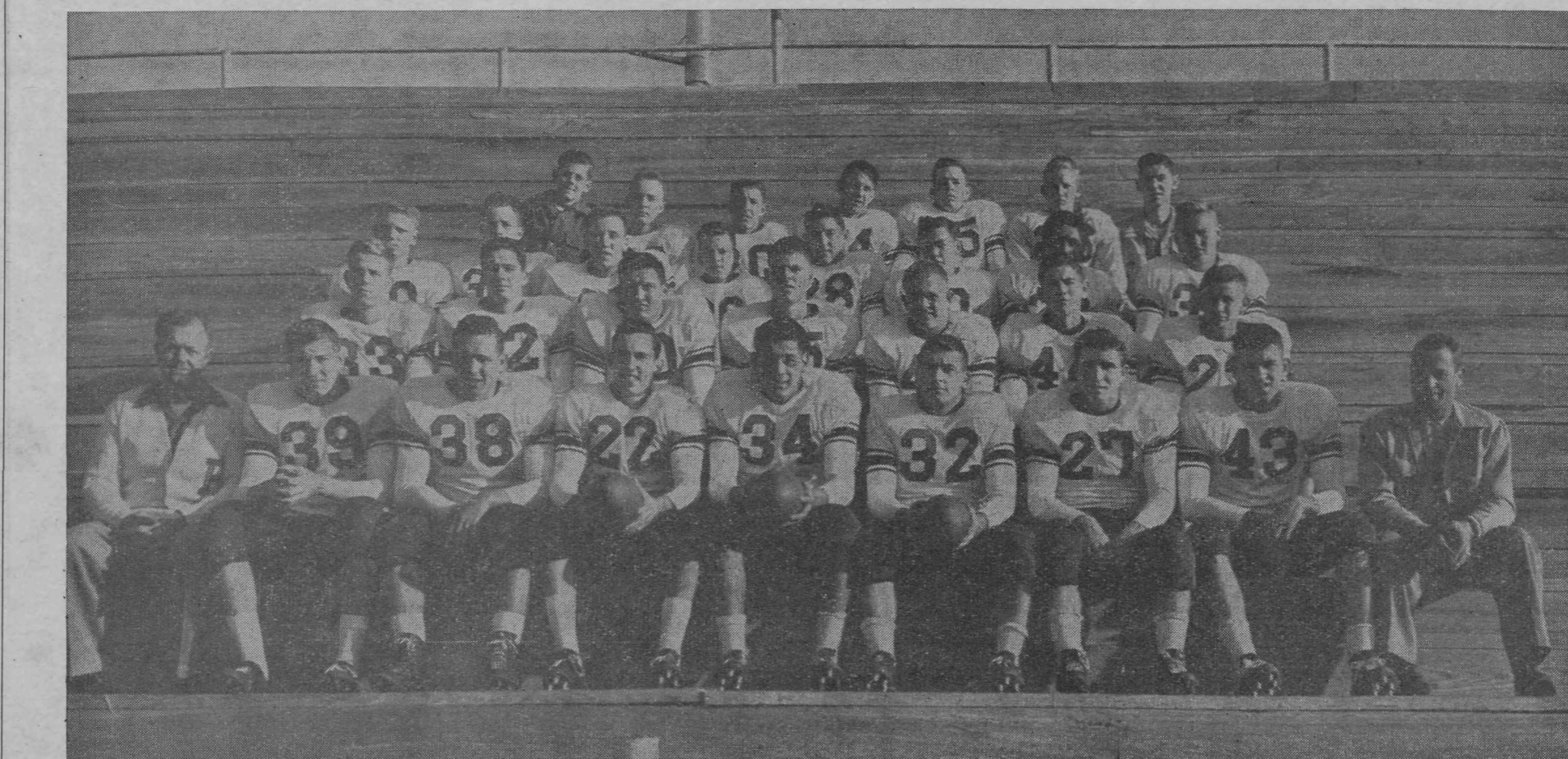
Coach; Lewis Ford, Assistant Coach; Thomas Harvey, Donald Clark, Fred Rogers, Malcolm Hebert, Herman Klinkhammer, Jack Hill, Hubert Miller, Carl Choate, Joy Lynn Hardin, W. T. Black, Donald Harrison, Jimmy McMahon, Clark Bienvenu, Gilbert Massey, Assistant Coach.



**HUNTSVILLE AA CHAMPIONS**—First Row (left to right) Charles Davis, Ashley Royal, Thomas Reeves, Wilburn Morgan, Bobby Grisham, Charles Mallery, Larry Brock, David Smith. Second Row: Manuel Martinez,

Manager; Reginald Sydow, Jackie Pursley, Robert Autery, Jerry Chasteen, Pete Thiele, Kenneth Coleman, Barney Thomas, Carrol Ray Maddux. Third Row: Edgar Chasteen, Randy Alexander, Grover Beckham, Sterling

Hudspeth, Bobby Nimmo, Lester Ashworth. Top Row: Coach Mance Park, Bobby Reed, Manager; James Park, Curtis Mancewell, Joe Clements, Nolan Hutchinson, Coach Jim Kethan; Jerry Sandel, Trainer.



**RANGER CLASS A CHAMPIONS**—(Left to Right) Row 1: Assistant Coach Boone Yarbrough, Dan Mitchell, Jimmy Wheeler, Charlie Massegee, Chico Mendoza, Bobby Justice, Billy Browning, Tommy Hinds, Head Coach

O. C. (Stubby) Warden. Row 2: John Rush, Scott Forney, Eddie Jones, Jimmy Littlefield, Gary Patterson, Jim Nail, Benny Robinson. Row 3: Jerry Cantrell, Archie Robinson, Tommy Sutton, Paul Hinds, John Hagaman, Dan

Cruz, Cruz Vasquez, Tommy Young. Row 4: Jerry White, Manager; Jerry Bradford, Charles Bonney, Johnny Swinner, Pete Jameson, John Wylie and Ralph Franks, Manager.

## One-Game Playoff On Trial This Year

(Continued from Page 1)

urday, February 27. This will mean that there will be only four teams represented at the regional tournament in both conferences A and AA for boys and girls. It is hoped that this plan will allow teams to eliminate some of the travel involved in determining the regional champion and at the same time increase interest in the playoffs by having the games played near the homes of the competing schools.

For an illustration, in Region I, Conference AA boys' basketball, the winner of District 1 will play the winner of District 2, 3 vs. 4, 5 vs. 6, 7 vs. 8, with the respective winners going to the regional tournament. This same pattern is followed in each region in each conference for both boys and girls. In Conference AA, District 17 will draw a bye and will automatically certify to the regional tournament. All other boys' districts in Conferences A and AA will have the one-game playoff in order to qualify for the regional tournament.

Sites of playoffs are listed below for boys' basketball. Sites for regional playoffs and the byes in girls' basketball Conferences AA and AA districts will be announced in the February Leaguer.

## CONFERENCE B

Regional tournaments for boys' basketball Conference B will be held at the following centers:

Region I—Districts 1-13, West Texas State Teachers College, Canyon; W. A. Miller, regional chairman.

Region II—Districts 14-26, Howard Payne College, Brownwood; Dr. Z. T. Huff, regional chairman.

Region III—Districts 27-42, Southern Methodist University, Dallas; Mr. Madison Bell, regional chairman.

Region IV—Districts 43-57, Kilgore College, Kilgore; Mr. James Monroe Parks, regional chairman.

Region V—Districts 58-69, Sam Houston State College, Huntsville; Mr. Hayden Malone, regional chairman.

Region VI—Districts 70-79, Southwest Texas State Teachers College, San Marcos; Mr. O. W. Strahan, regional chairman.

Region VII—Districts 80-86, Texas College of Arts and Industries, Kingsville; Stewart Cooper, regional chairman.

Region VIII—Districts 87-90, Odessa College, Odessa; Mr. Wallace E. Snelson, regional chairman.

## CONFERENCE A

Region I—Districts 1-8, Texas Technological College, Lubbock; Mr. Buist L. Warren, regional chairman.

Region II—Districts 9-16, North Texas State Teachers College, Denton; Mr. Pete Shands, regional chairman.

Region III—Districts 17-24, Texas A&M College, College Station, Mr. Barlow Irvin, regional chairman.

Region IV—Districts 25-32, Victoria; Mr. Barlow Irvin, regional chairman.

## CONFERENCE AA

Region I—Districts 1-8, Texas Technological College, Lubbock; Mr. Buist L. Warren, regional chairman.

Region II—Districts 9-16, North Texas State Teachers College, Denton; Mr. Pete Shands, regional chairman.

Region III—Districts 17-25, (District 18 bye), Texas A&M College, College Station; Mr. Barlow Irvin, regional chairman.

Region IV—Districts 25-32, Victoria College, Victoria; Mr. Hester Evans, regional chairman.