

WRESTLING

By EARL CREWS

At the end of the 1937 wrestling season, Coach Ed Gallagher's internationally famous Oklahoma Aggie matmen had been shorn of their title as state champions, but had added back the National Intercollegiate championship to their list of accomplishments to prove

1925 to 1929; and National A. A. U. titles in 1925, 1927, 1928, and 1936.

With the establishment of the national intercollegiate tournament, the Aggies won the first three titles in 1928, 1929, and 1932. Indiana, unofficially, was best in 1933, but with the reestablishment of the official title, the Cowboys again paced the field in 1934 and '35. In 1936 the Punchers for the first time in six official tries, failed to



Front Row, left to right—Fred Parkey, Johnny Williamson, Stanley Henson, Jack St. Clair, Boyd Nelson, Joe McDaniels, Madison Merritt.
Back Row—Raymond Swartz (Freshman Coach), Bill Freeman, George DeVlamming, Willard Lorette, Paul Monnett, Capt. Lloyd Ricks, Coach E. C. Gallagher.

that Aggieland's wily old mat maestro was still the nation's top ranking amateur wrestling coach.

At the onset of the season, Coach Gallagher pronounced the candidates for his team the most polished group of wrestlers he ever had to work with, but with the sports archives covered with the accomplishments of past great Gallagher teams, it was a statement that would have been hard to believe had it not come from the lips of Aggieland's Silver Fox of the mat.

Indeed, it was a most startling record which the candidates for the 1937 team were expected to perpetuate, for a survey revealed that in Gallagher's role as master of the Aggie mats, Cowboy teams had recorded 110 victories, 4 defeats and 3 ties in 21 years.

Included in that 21-year record were six Southwest conference championships, first in 1917, and successively from 1920 to 1925; Missouri Valley conference titles from

take the team title as they placed third behind Oklahoma U. and Central Teachers.

To prove the strength of his squad, Coach Gallagher opened the season with a double header against Central Teachers, and Northeastern Teachers, and took both ends of the double bill losing only one match to Northeastern, two losses and one draw to Central.

Next to fall before the scintillating Aggie grapplers, was the Southwestern Bulldogs, who were later designed to shear the Aggies of their title as state champions. In the engagement with the Bulldogs, the Aggies relinquished only two wins to chalk up an impressive 20 to 6 victory over Coach Surbeck's Teachers.

With the three home victories as a basis for their lead in the state collegiate race, the Aggies traveled to Norman for their first meeting of the season with the traditional rival Sooners.

The stage was set for a revengeful victory over the Sooners who possessed the National Intercollegiate title which they had pilfered from the Punchers' grasp, but fate stepped in to aid the down-staters, and only with the aid of Captain Lloyd Rick's sensational fall over Fred Ball in the last minute of the match were the Punchers able to stave off defeat, and to end the meet in a 14-14 deadlock.

No sooner had the Aggie grapplers recovered from the shock of the Sooner tie when they again stepped into a straight left at Weatherford as Coach Surbeck's Bulldogs sprang an unpleasant surprise on the Gallaghermen to defeat them 13½ to 10½ in a wild exhibition of wrestling in the Bulldog lair.

The loss to the Bulldogs marked the first defeat that the Aggies had suffered since the reversal by the Sooners in the 1932 season, but was an affair that ended in story-book fashion.

With the score tied at 10-10, Captain Lloyd Ricks, hero of the Sooner match, stepped on the mat against Bill Norton, ace of the Bulldog squad, and after ten minutes of furious grappling neither man had enough advantage to be decided the victor. After a terrific struggle in the extension period, the referee raised Norton's hand to signify that the Bulldogs had gained their first victory over the old Mat Master.

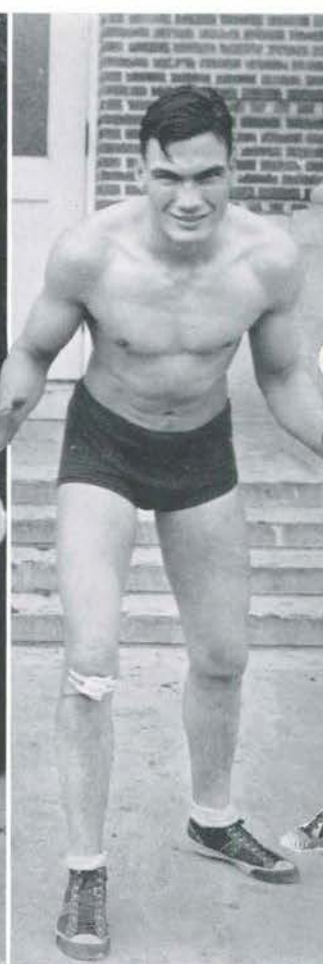


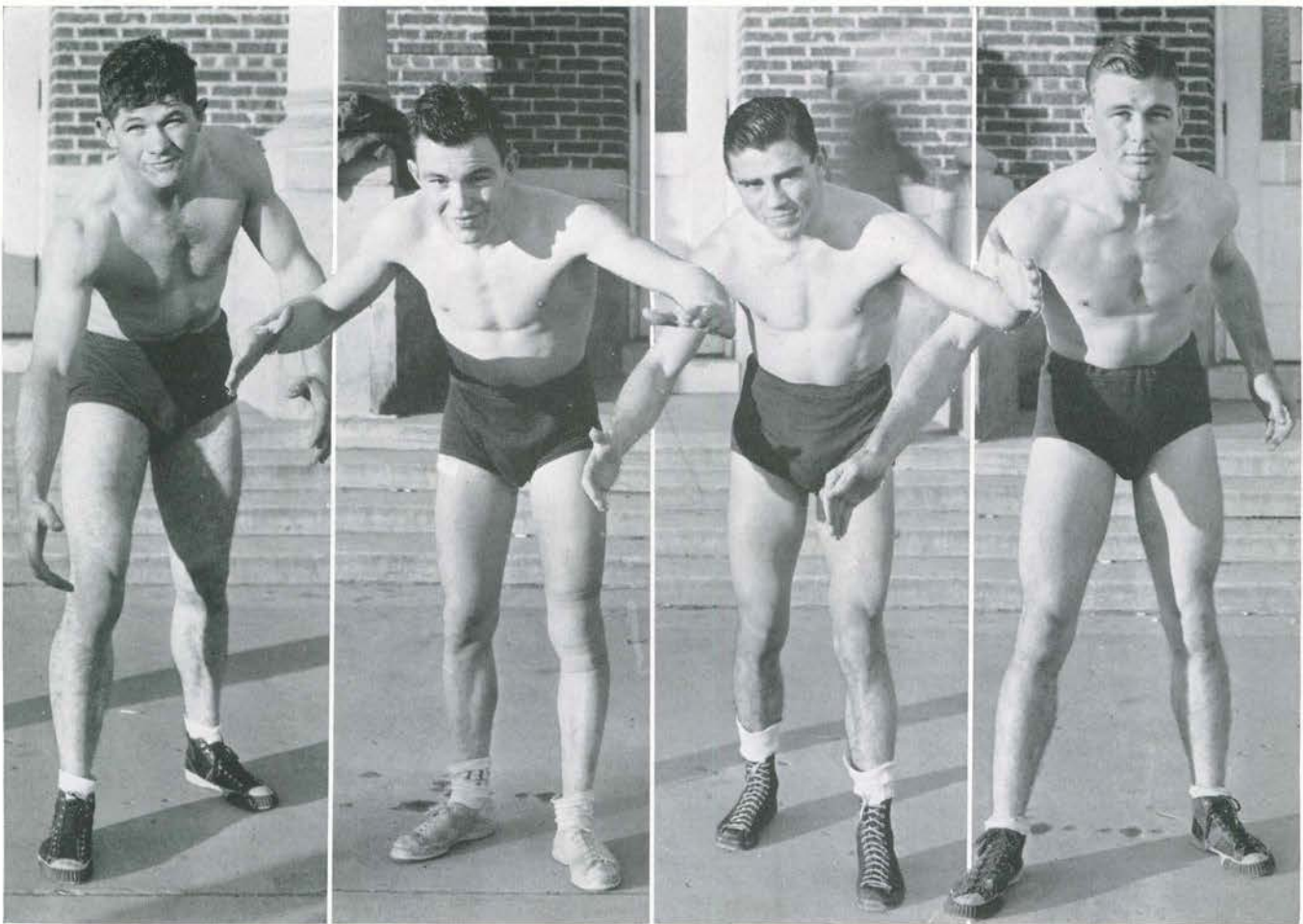
RICKS

HENSON

LORETTE

PARKEY





BASE

McDANIELS

BYRD

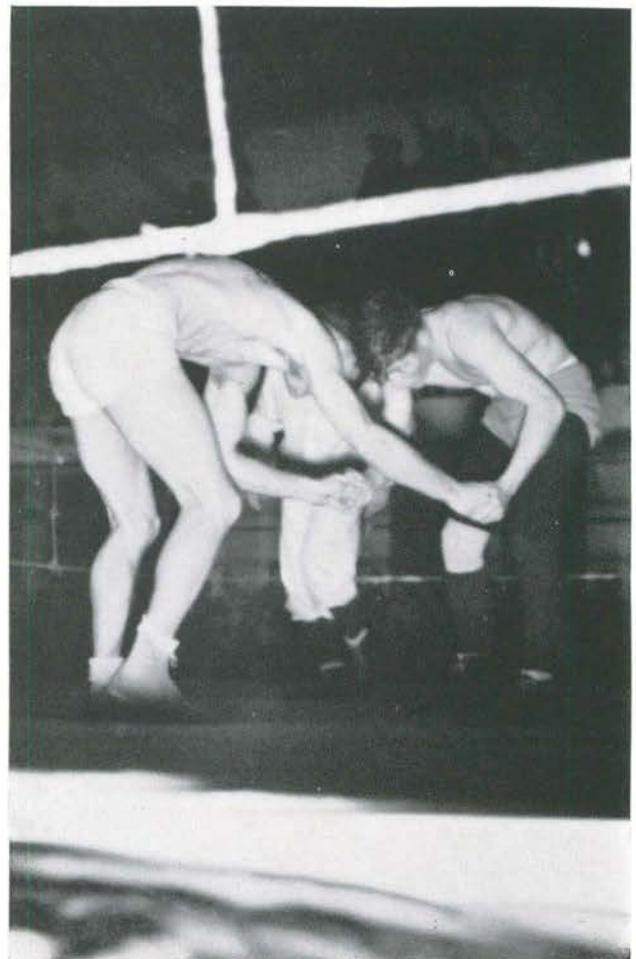
SCRIVENS

In the return match with the Central Bronchos at Edmond, the Aggies arose from their lethargy by tripping the Teachers with a lop-sided 18½ to 7½ victory in which they lost only the 126 and 135-pound matches, and drew the 145-pound encounter.

To draw the curtains on dual meets for the season, the Aggies blanketed the Sooners with sweet revenge as they tripled the downstate grapplers' score with a 24-8 victory in the Aggie gymnasium, in a meeting that was not without an abundance of tears and laughter.

Upon returning from the intercollegiate tournament, Coach Gallagher began debating whether to defend the National A. A. U. crown which his pupils had won the previous season, but due to the shortage of funds, and class work that would be missed by his wrestlers, he decided to pass the title undefended.

Thus the curtain fell on the 1937 wrestling season finding the Oklahoma Aggies with their incomparable old master champions of the nation, but not of their native state. An Olympic team composed of all Aggies is the fond hope of Gallagher and all Aggieland, and prospects grow brighter with each wrestling season.



"O" CLUB

By HANK WYATT

The "O" Club is composed of athletes who have been awarded letters. A small increase was due to the athletic cabinet and Student Senate recognizing golf as a varsity sport. With the addition of swimming and boxing for the coming year, the "O" Club's membership should be swelled by an increase of at least twenty new members. The need for this organization was first felt soon after organized athletics were installed on this campus. The paramount objective of this fledgling organization was to promote a feeling of good fellowship among the athletes of different sports.

Through the efforts of the "O" Club in their cooperation with the Athletic Cabinet, the organization has been put on a sounder financial basis than they have ever realized in the history of their existence. The funds for the up-keep of the organization are made possible by taxing each new member a sum of one dollar and fifty cents. This entitles the initiate a lifetime pass to all ath-



NORVEL HEIDLAGE

letic functions which take place at Oklahoma A. & M. College. Concessions on all games held here are controlled by the club.

The "O" Club was very proud of the fact that they placed four men on the 1936 Olympic team in wrestling. By accomplishing this feat, they proved without a doubt that Oklahoma A. & M. is still king of the collegiate wrestling world. In doing this the "aggies" had more men on the team than any other three schools in the United States. The men winning a berth on the Olympic team were: Frank Lewis, Ross Flood, Harley Strong, and Fred Parkey.

In winning his weight, Frank Lewis lived up to all expectations.

This Olympic Champion built himself up from total obscurity to become one of the most famous champions of the many champions which have been developed on this campus.

The Connor Award, which is given each year to the outstanding graduating athlete, was won the past year

PARKEY

LEWIS

FLOOD

STRONG

