

Sixty men vied for positions on 1938 Javelina football team

50 Years Ago

When Texas A&I College football coaches Bud McCallum and Cal Jewett issued first call for 1938 grid practice, more than 60 hopefuls turned out to give the Javelina coaches one of the largest squads in the history of the sport here, according to the Sept. 7, 1938, issue of the Kingsville Record.

Among the 60 men were 13 lettermen from the 1937 season and approximately 40 transfers and new men. The remainder was composed of squadmen from the 1937 team.

Mainstays in the lineup were lettermen. Don Hightower, 185-pound halfback, still seemed to be the class of the ball carriers, but Leroy Fry, 170, halfback; Woodrow Petty, 178, fullback; Kenneth Grimes, 190, quarterback, and Don Galliga, 175, quarterback, were expected to give Hightower a real run for top honors.

Other lettermen were Joe Anthis, 20, guard; Doc Seay, 200, tackle; Edwin Ahrens, 180, end; Charley Oster, 165, guard; L.V. Sewer, 165, end; John Mumme, 180, fullback, and Bubba Arnold, 180-

The lettermen would form the nucleus, but they wouldn't have the axe on any of the positions. From the large squad would come men to put up a real scrap for all the positions.

Particularly, two Corpus Christi Buccaneer veterans, Stuart Clarkson, 200-pound tackle on the offense and line-backer on the defense, and Wallace Franks, 185-pound center, were not expected to have any trouble in breaking into the starting lineup.

Several men in the backfield also stood out impressively. One was Leon Price, 200 pounds of graceful fullback on the offense and tackle on the defense. He was remembered here as the big blond who paced the San Perlita basketball team in the last Regional Meet, and who made the Texas High Schools Southern All-Star team in the summer of 1938.

Others being considered for the team were Capen Simons, 130-pound back from Kingsville, and Gil Steinke, 175-pound end from Galveston.

25 Years Ago

Something new in South Texas cattle transportation was apparently initiated by the King Ranch when

some 500 head of Santa Gertrudis steers were loaded aboard a double-decker barge at Corpus Christi for a 25-day trip to Pittsburgh, Pa., according to the Sept. 11, 1963, issue of the Kingsville Record.

The barge would follow the Intracoastal Canal and Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

After the trip, which ranch officials termed "experimental," the cattle

Looking Back

would be fattened on the King Ranch pasture near Coatesville, Pa., for the Eastern markets.

This was believed to be the first shipment of cattle by barge up the Intracoastal Canal from Texas, and more than 100 persons, mostly South Texas ranchers, were on hand to watch the loading operations.

King Ranch officials hoped the cattle would gain weight during the trip. When shipped by rail and truck, the cattle usually lost a great deal of

weight.

Loaded on the barge with the cattle were 2,992 100-pound sacks of special feed, and 8,000 gallons of fresh water. The feed was expected to last 28 days, but the water would have to be replenished about three times during the trip.

Five King Ranch herdsmen would travel with the cattle.

The trip up the Intracoastal Canal would be conducted by the Coyle Barge Lines Inc. of Houston, and the Union Barge Lines of New Orleans would have charge of the barge up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

The barge was owned by the Harrison Ranch Inc. of Little Village, Ark., and was especially designed for shipping up to 1,000 head of cattle.

The Harrison Ranch once used the barge to transport cattle from Mississippi to Omaha, Neb. The cattle gained weight on the voyage, but the trip took only 10 days.

Ranch officials were not sure what effect the longer trip would have on the cattle.

10 Years Ago

The proposed 1978-79 city budget of just under \$5 million was a bal-

anced budget that provided for a five percent cost of living increase for city employees and an overall budget surplus of \$280,000, without an increase in property taxes or in the charges for city services, according to the Sept. 10, 1978, issue of the Kingsville Record.

The budget, which was up \$500,000 from the year before, was to be presented to the city commission, and had to be passed on the first reading as part of the budget approval timetable.

Bob Nelson, acting city manager, said, "The commission's goal for this year was not to increase property taxes. We have a budget which doesn't reflect an increase, but does reflect a cost of living increase for city employees."

"This was a hard budget to prepare for the reason that all of our services and maintenance went up 5 to 15 percent. And we are not going up on taxes, sewer or sanitation."

In other news, the King Ranch family announced that proceeds from its annual ranch sale barbecue would be contributed to the improvement of community parks.