

ATHLETICS



FIELD DEDICATION

ON ARMISTICE DAY, 1922, at the Tech-Gooding game, the Athletic Field was dedicated to our Coach, Ralph H. Hutchinson, with the hope that it will in some measure convey the appreciation of the Students, the Faculty, and the friends of the Tech, for a work so willingly and loyally given to our beloved Alma Mater. The lack of a suitable athletic field has greatly handicapped the development of the Tech's major sports. The old field gave us a poor gridiron, a bad baseball diamond, and a worse track, with practically no provision for the comfort of spectators. The athletic fans who came out to see the opponents of the Tech go down to bitter defeat had either to sit on their imagination or stand up.

Lack of finances was probably the first reason, and lack of sufficient interest in Athletics on the part of any one person was the second reason that the Tech struggled along with a poor athletic field.

But in the fall of 1920, reasons for a poor field ceased to exist when Coach Hutchinson arrived as director of physical education. He immediately recognized the need of a suitable athletic field, and accordingly planned the field as it now stands, and set himself to solving the financial problem to put his plans across. As a result, construction was started the following spring.

The fact that it has taken nearly two years to complete the field shows that many handicaps had to be overcome, and during that time "Hutch" has played the role of engineer, and even laborer. He planned well, he built well, and the field as it now stands surpasses all expectations.

The field is large enough for a separate baseball diamond and football field with a quarter-mile track surrounding them. Arrangements have also been made for a 220 yard straightaway, so that all races will finish in front of the bleachers. The bleachers will seat 5000 spectators, and with ample parking space for autos, large crowds can view the contests in comfort.

In the same spirit shown in building our field, "Hutch" set himself to reorganize, equip, and build up the Athletic department, until now the Tech is placed for all time upon the Athletic map of the West.



"Hutch"



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ATHLETICS, during the past two years have developed rapidly in all branches at the Tech. Although the Tech is only a Junior College her teams have proved themselves a dangerous rival to all 'varsity squads in the intermountain country. Hutchinson Field, which was completed last fall, has been a large factor in creating interest in Athletics, and this, coupled with the exceptional ability of Coach Hutchinson, gives the Tech unlimited possibilities in the future.

In Football the team brought home the conference championship in 1921-'22. The most spectacular game of the season was played with College of Idaho on Hutchinson Field, when the Tech Tigers scored a touchdown in the last two minutes of play, winning the game by a score of 13-7. It was only by the pranks of Old Man "Jinx" that the Tigers were cheated out of the banner for 1922-'23. While the team made only second place in 1922-'23, it really did more in putting the Tech on the Athletic map than any former team.

The 1921-'22 Basketball season was a very successful one for the Tech, the Tigers winning the championship at the conference tournament held at the Tech Gym, in February, 1922. The teams participating in this tournament were: Gooding College, Albion State Normal, Rick's Normal College, the College of Idaho, and the Tech.

Although this year's team was not so successful, they made an excellent showing, considering that long trips and strange floors had to be contended with. Furthermore, only two of last year's players were back, and the new material was for the most part inexperienced. Considering all this, the team made a very creditable showing for the Tech.

Wrestling was ushered in this season for the first time in the Tech's history. The mat artists were coached by Assistant Coach Felix A. Plastino, former student of the Tech and graduate of the University of Idaho. "Plasty's" ability as a wrestling coach was demonstrated in the meet with the College of Idaho, when the husky and experienced College wrestlers, who had defeated Washington State College and held the University of Idaho to a very close margin, went down to defeat under the Tech Tigers by the overwhelming score of 52-12. From the results of this meet and the interest taken in this line of sport, wrestling has undoubtedly come to stay, and in all probability, beginning with next year, a letter will be awarded in this branch of Athletics.

Owing to the backward spring, and the fact that Hutchinson Field was being graded and leveled, not much was accomplished in Track and Baseball in the 1922 season. The Track team, however, made a good showing in the meet held at Gooding. The Baseball team did exceptionally well, winning four out of the five games played.

However, the 1923 prospects look much better, since Hutchinson Field has been completed and a large number of contestants are turning out.