

Grididders Begin Season Against LSU Tigers

Jim Myers Expects 56 Squadmen; 18-Lettermen Included on Roster



Roy Northrup
... team captain and center

Coach Jim Myers starts his third season at Texas A&M this fall with an assortment of personnel.

On hand will be a squad of some 56 players including 27 sophomores, 12 seniors and 17 juniors. Of these, 15 lettered last year while three others lettered in previous seasons.

Included among the returnees are seven 2-year lettermen. The three who lettered prior to 1959 are George Gray, who was a letterman lineman in 1958 as a sophomore; Don McClelland, letterman end of 1957 who has returned from military service and Jon Few, back, who was a 1958 letterman.

Because of the large number of sophomores on the squad an analysis of prospects is difficult but among these first-year men are several prospects who could blossom into top-notch Southwest Conference material.

The speed in which they blossom will be the determining factor in A&M's success this year, especially in view of the opener with LSU at Baton Rouge.

'... Pressed for Time'

As Coach Jim Myers put it after spring training, "We're pressed for time for the sophomores to develop but this group of youngsters probably will mature very rapidly when submitted to the rapid-fire treatment they will receive at the

hands of LSU's three platoons in our opening game September 17."

Many feel that the 1960 sophomores at A&M surpass any since the 1955 crop of first-year men led by John David Crow, Charles Krueger, Loyd Taylor, et al, who opened with the defending national champions from UCLA and lost a 21-0 contest only to bounce back the next week and trim LSU 28-0 in the Cotton Bowl at Dallas.

It appeared at the time that the young Aggies of 1955 took out all their frustration from the UCLA opener on a fine LSU team. At any rate the 1960 Aggies open with a powerhouse Tiger team and by mid-season it should be a matter of record whether or not the Aggies have matured.

A&M lost nine lettermen from 1959, among them eight 3-year winners including six starters but in spite of the losses the 1960 squad could have a better record due to many factors.

First there is the matter of competition at all positions. At least two men will be battling hard for every position, not only lettermen but sophomores and squadmen and hold-outs who failed to letter last fall but who showed up well in the spring.

Secondly, the sophomores as mentioned before will greatly strengthen the squad at certain

positions where they are needed. At the close of spring training Fullback Lee Roy Caffey, first-year man from Thorndale, was the only sophomore to earn a starting berth and pushing him is Sam Byer, another soph from Marlin. But at other spots sophomores are right on the heels of veterans and may move up after fall workouts begin September 1.

Quarterbacking Problem

On the debit side of the ledger is the quarterbacking and kicking game—both headaches for 1960 plans. Gone is Charlie Milstead, three-year quarterback, leader, passer and kicker deluxe. Milstead left 13 new records in the books at A&M and his replacement is hard to find.

Anyone of four quarterback candidates could wind up with the job this fall and after spring training, none had earned the tag of No. 1. The four are Powell Berry, senior from Snyder who lettered two seasons behind Milstead; Daryle Keeling, junior squadman from Tyler; Ronnie Brice, soph from Andrews and Babe Craig, junior transfer from Tennessee.

Among their assets, Berry is the best on defense and the most experienced; Brice has fine speed, and is a good runner and passer; Craig, a former tailback, is a good runner and passer and Keeling,

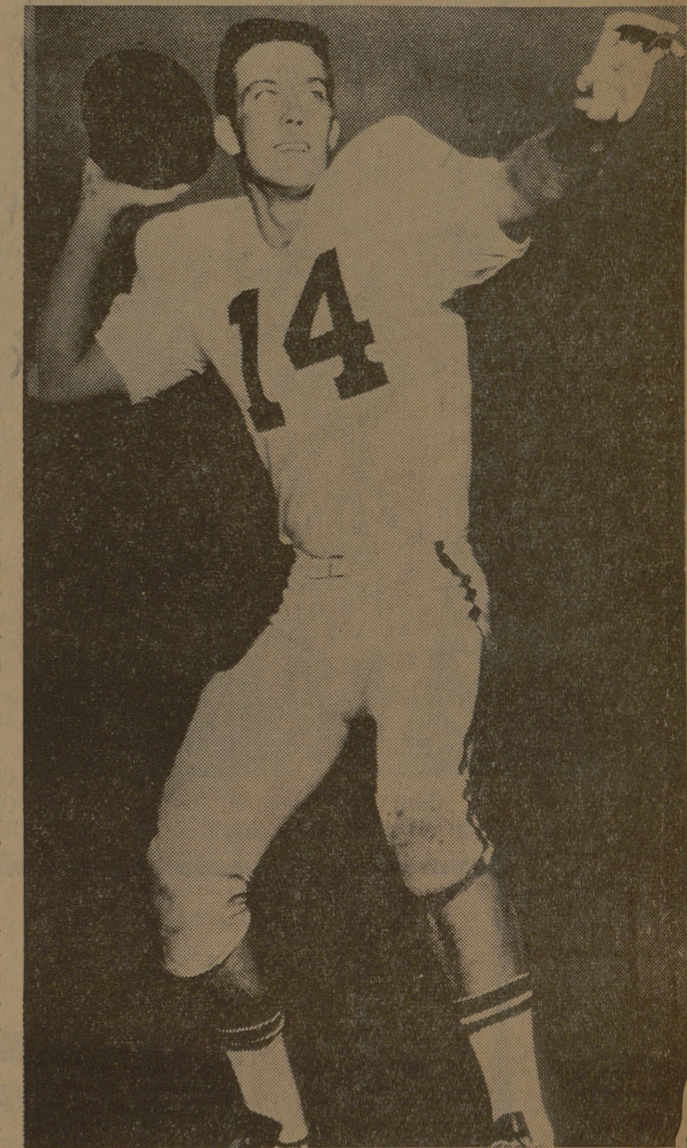
who played some behind Milstead and Berry in 1959, does everything well.

Along with the quarterbacking headache, the kicking game suffered when Milstead left. A top QB and passer, he also was an excellent kicker. Milstead was one of the nation's top punters, both long and quick-kick. His toe will be missed greatly.

As for the field goal and extra point department, Randy Sims returns for his final season. The Houston Austin halfback set a new conference field goal record against Texas last Thanksgiving with a 51-yarder 10 seconds before the end of the first half.

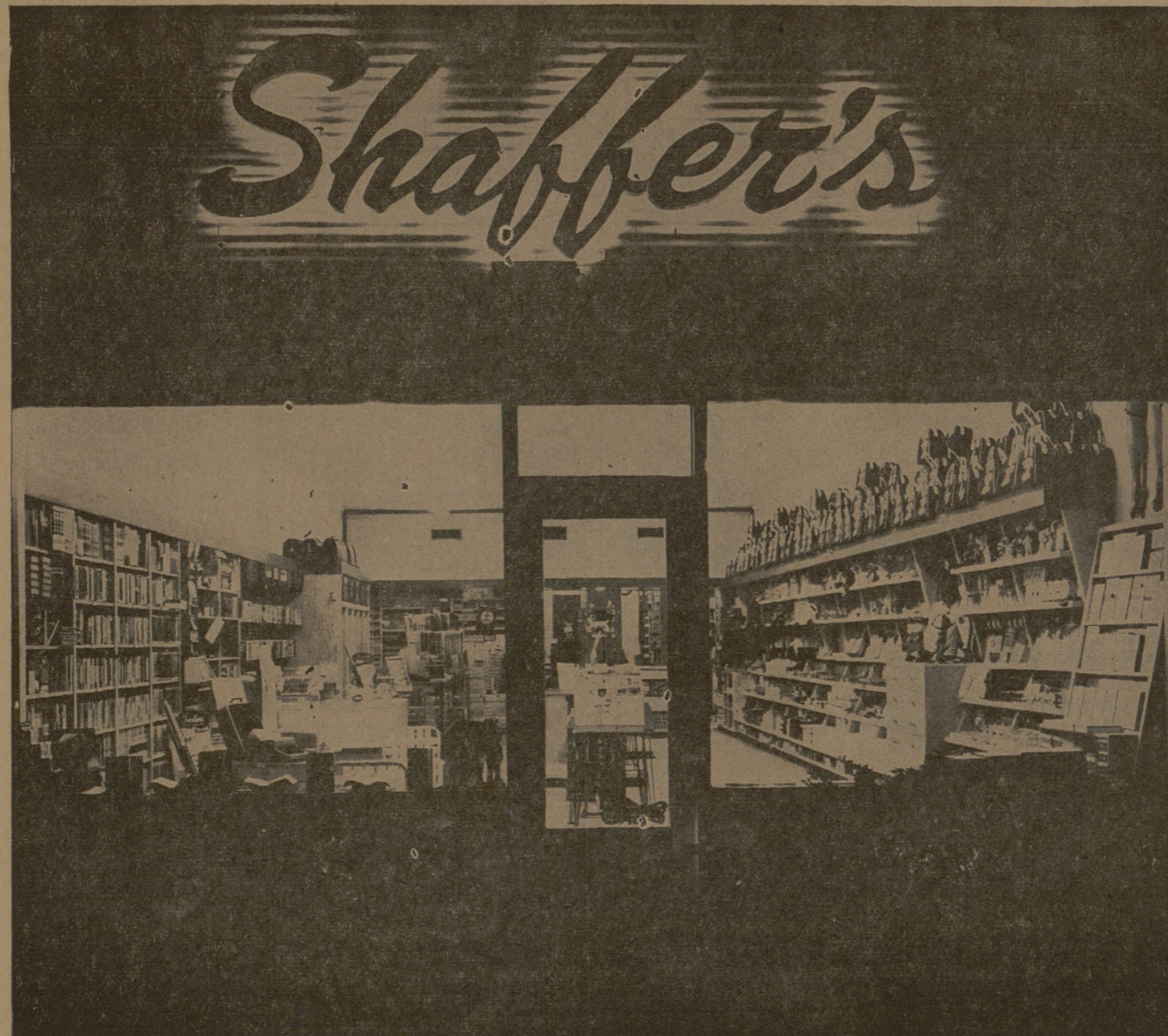
Among the major position changes in spring training involved Wayne Freiling of San Antonio, a junior letterman; Bob Caskey of Gonzales, junior squadman; Jack Estes of Olton, senior letterman and Kenneth Kipp, sophomore from Houston Milby.

Freiling was moved from guard to tackle where he is currently No. 1 on the right side; Caskey was switched from fullback to right halfback; Estes from end to right half and Kipp from end to a defensive quarterback. Kipp will be a defensive specialist. Estes was a freshman halfback in 1957 but has lettered at end the past two seasons. He currently is listed as No. 2 RHB behind Caskey.



Powell Berry
... alternate captain and quarterback

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