

MELVIN SIMMONS



TOMMY MEEKS



DAN McILHANY



**COACH FOLDBERG** 



RONNEY MOORE



**BUDGIE FORD** 



ANDY OVERTON



**BOBBY EVANS** 

## Aggies, Steers Clash Thursday In Grid Classic

By LANI PRESSWOOD

Sports Editor

The Aggies invade Austin Thursday for the annual Thanksgiving Day classic against the nationally-ranked Texas Longhorns.

This will be the 71st renewal of the Southwest Conference's most historic rivalry. Texas has captured 48 of the games, including the last seven.

The two squads bring exactly opposite records into the contest. The Cadets are 1-8 while the Steers have compiled

A&M would like nothing better than to blemish the Longhorn record before their Orange Bowl date on New

Year's Day. It could happen if history repeats itself.

The last time Texas accepted an Orange Bowl bid was 1948. The 0-9 Aggies stunned the high-flying Steers with a 14-14 deadlock to tarnish the lustre on the Longhorn

The oddsmakers have made Texas the overwhelming favorite to triumph in Thursday's duel. The Maroons have riddled the odds three of the past five encounters, only to see their effort fall short on the scoreboard.

Aggie Coach Hank Foldberg has scared rival mentor Darrell Royal to within an inch of his national rating during his past two Turkey Day shots at Texas. In both games the Ags carried a lead into the final stanza, only to see it melt into futility.

Last year's tilt came close to being the conference's all-time upset. The No. 1 Steers were forced to summon every resource at their disposal to pull it out, 15-13.

There will be a different setting for this year's battle. The site has been moved from Kyle Field to Austin, where a sellout crowd of 65,000 is assured.

The host school will feature several performers being acclaimed for individual honors. The offensive kingpin is tailback Ernie Koy, the conference's leading scorer and fourth leading rusher. Tommy Nobis is a likely bet for several All-American teams at linebacker.

Foldberg is optimistic but respectful as he contemplates facing these two standouts and their Orange-clad buddies.

"Injuries have caused them some line problems, but they're a solid ball club," says the Cadet taskmaster. "They have (Phil) Harris and (Harold) Phillip returning. That Koy really makes an impression on you at running back.

"I also think this Kristynik kid is underrated at quarterback and Nobis is a great linebacker. We were pleased to play Texas a close game last year," he continued." "We play to win each year."

Foldberg will have swift signal-caller Eddie McKaughan at full strength for Thursday's epic. The prime offensive threat for the Ags missed the Rice tilt because of a knee

Of McKaughan, Foldberg says, "Eddie has lived up to the brand of a good quarterback—he moves his ball club."

Two other Aggies who have provided yeoman service this season have been elected season captains by their teammates. Nose guard Ronney Moore and offensive end John Brotherton were selected by their colleagues last week. This contest, year in and year out one of the nation's

most colorful and exciting football spectacles, will not be nationally televised. Viewers in Houston and Austin will be the only ones able to see the clash at home.

The Texas game is annually the supreme challenge to the Twelfth Man. The world's largest bonfire will be burned Tuesday night on the A&M Campus as the symbol of the eternal Aggie desire for victory.



BILLY UZZELL



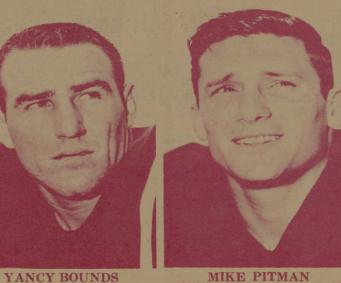
JAMES DRENNAN



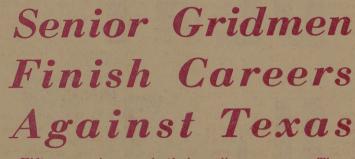
RAY GENE HINZE



WAYLON WARD



MIKE PITMAN



Fifteen seniors end their college careers Thursday against Texas. This game will mark their last appearance in an Aggie uniform.

Yancy Bounds is a 215-pound offensive guard from Deadwood, Texas. He is a two-year letterman and was a starting guard last season. Bounds is a history major. He

was a three sport star in high school.

John Brotherton is a 212-pound offensive end from Mineola. He has started the last two seasons and has won two varsity letters. Brotherton was All-East Texas in high school. Is a P.E. major. A&M's leading pass receiver this

James Drennan is a 194-pound defensive end from Hooks. Is a two-year letterman. Was second team all-state in high school. Is majoring in architecture. Has started

nearly every game this season.

Bobby Evans is a 220-pound offensive tackle from Thorndale. Lettered as a sophomore but did not play the last two seasons. Was Class A shot put champion for three

years. Is an agriculture major.

Budgie Ford is a 186-pound offensive fullback from Taylor. Led Aggie rushers last season at halfback. Has won two varsity letters. Was a high school All-American. Is majoring in marketing. Ray Gene Hinze is a 221-pound defensive tackle from

LaVega. Has been a two-year starter and has won two varsity letters. Was a four sport standout in high school. Is a P.E. major.

Dan McIlhany is a 190-pound quarterback. Has won two varsity letters. Began year as starting Aggie quarterback but was sidelined by an injury in Arkansas game. Ran

a kickoff back 103 yards once against Tech. Is in Veteri-Ronney Moore is a 218-pound defensive guard from Brownwood. He and Brotherton are season captains. Two-year starter. Made Houston Post All-SWC last season.

Former all-stater. Is majoring in business. Tommy Meeks is a 175-pound offensive halfback from Bryan. Has won two varsity letters. Made first team 4A All-State his senior year in high school. Called "T-Bird" by his teammates. Is a business major.

Andy Overton is a 186-pound offensive center from

Palestine. Has lettered one year. Played guard in high school where he was President of Junior and Senior class. Has been hampered by injury this season. Is a management

Mike Pitman is a 165-pound defensive halfback from Dallas Adamson. Has been a three-year starter for the Aggies. A strong candidate for All-SWC. Was All-City in

high school. Is majoring in business.

Melvin Simmons is a 212-pound defensive tackle from Odessa Has won two varsity letters. Was SWC Sophomore-of-the-Year two seasons ago. Was a super All-Stater in high school. Has been slowed by injuries. Is a business

Billy Uzzell is a 183-pound offensive end from Eagle Lake. Lettered last year after transferring from Wichita. Starred in basketball as well as football in high school. Was shifted from the backfield for this season. A math

Waylon Ward is a 224-pound offensive tackle from Mount Pleasant. Came out without a scholarship and worked

his way up to starting position last year. Active in campus activities. Is a history and English major.

Jim Willenborg is a 191-pound safety from Clifton. Shifted from quarterback, where he was a high school All-Stater. Is an accounting major recently named to "Who's Who." Annually plays best game against Texas.





JIM WILLENBORG