THE BATTALION

Thursday, May 30, 1968 College Station, Texas

Former Aggie Football Great Dies In Bryan

Warren (Rip) Collins, 72, one of Texas A&M's all-time football stars, died Monday night in a Bryan hospital.

Collins, who lived at 202 Glenwood, Bryan, had been a resident of the community 17 years. He was chief of police from 1950 to

The former Texas Ranger and Travis County sheriff kicked his way into Southwest Conference record books, then pitched his way to lasting fame with the Detroit Tigers, Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees and St. Louis Browns during 13 years in the major leagues.

Funeral services were 2 p.m. Wednesday at Callaway Jones Funeral Chapel in Bryan. Burial was in the College Station City Cemetery.

Collins was born Feb. 26, 1896, in Weatherford. His family later moved to Austin where he became a high school grid star. The story goes that Collins wanted to go to the University of Texas but was not warmly encouraged. So he chose A&M, a school at which he felt he could deal Texas the most misery.

The 1915 A&M-Texas clash gave him that opportunity, the story continues. He enjoyed a historic afternoon, punting the oddly shaped football 23 times for a 55-yard average. He also scored a touchdown after the cadets had bounced on one of a dozen fumbles which oozed out of Steer arms. A&M dehorned the Longhorns, 13-0.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ruth Collins; three sons, James P. Collins, San Antonio; Henry W. Collins III of Dallas, and William M. Collins, Houston; a daughter, Mrs. Charlotte Layman, Bryan; seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

AstroFacts

Leo Durocher's Chicago Cubs make their first 1968 visit to the Astrodome Friday night, May 31, as the Houston Astros open an 11-game homestand that will include three games with the Cubs, four with the World Champion St. Louis Cardinals, and four with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The Cubs series Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. will be highlighted by "Helmet Night" on Friday the 31st when each youngster, 16 or under, will receive an Astros batting helmet as he enters the park.

The Cardinals series will lead off with a 6 p.m. starting time on Monday, June 3, and will follow with three 7:30 p.m. night games on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 4, 5 and 6.

The June 3 game will be followed by Eddie Feigner and his famous "King and His Court" four man softball team as they take on the champion Stran-Steel team of Houston.

"Ball Night" on Friday, June 7, will start the Pittsburgh series as all youngsters, 16 or under, will receive an official league baseball. The first twi-night doubleheader in Astrodome history will follow on Saturday, June 8, when Houston meets Pittsburgh in two games starting at 5:30 and then close out the homestand with a 2 p.m. game on Sunday, June 9.

Astro pitchers have been going particularly well recently. In Houston's last 13 games through Tuesday night, Astro pitchers worked eight or more innings each time, including seven complete games.

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