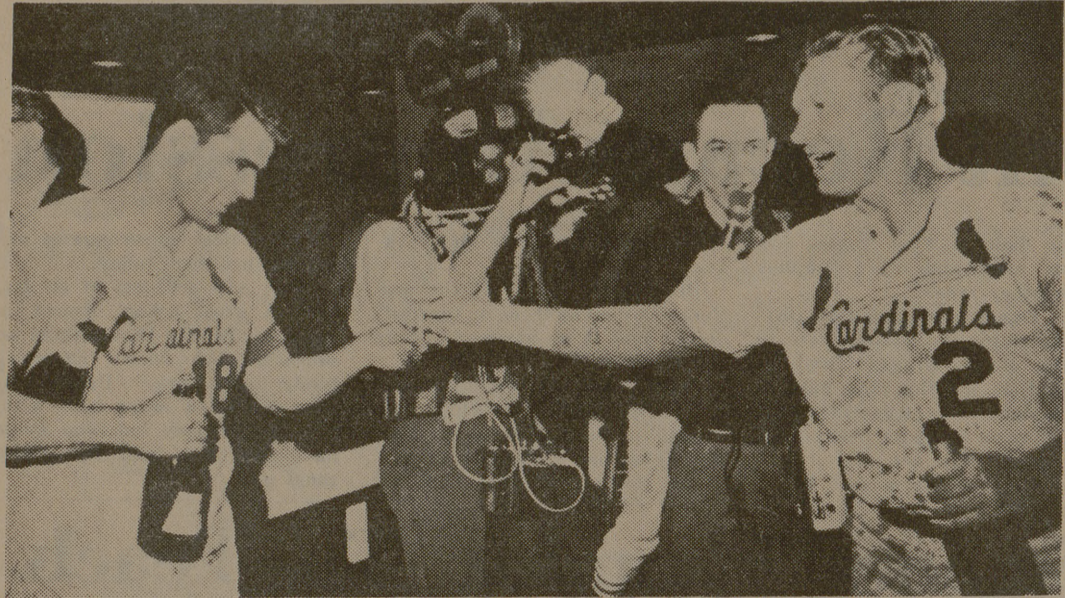


Stallings Impressed By LSU



BRING ON DETROIT

St. Louis Cardinals' manager Red Schoendienst, right, hands a glass of champagne to Mike Shannon in dressing room at Houston after the Redbirds clinched the National League pennant by downing the Astros while the San Francisco Giants lost to the Cincinnati Redlegs.

By JOHN PLATZER
Battalion Sports Editor
"Big, strong, fast and a lot of 'em" is how Aggie head coach Gene Stallings describes the fortunes of the Louisiana State University Tigers for this season. Stallings made his comments about the Aggies' first opponent at a press conference in the Letterman's Lounge of G. Rollie White yesterday.

Among the things that impresses Stallings most about LSU is their stock of "great backs." Mainstays in the backfield are Eddie Ray, a 220 pound fullback, Glenn Smith and Maurice LeBlanc.

Fred Haynes, who the Aggie head coach describes as "about 168 with great quickness," is currently the Tigers' number one quarterback.

A&M enters the game as four point underdogs and will probably be forced to play without fullback Wendell Housley, according to Stallings.

"Right now we don't think he'll be able to play," the Aggie head coach said of his fullback. "We may even leave him here and let him work on his knee."

If Housley is unable to play, junior Javier Vela and sophomore Dave Elmendorf will share his place in the lineup. Stallings said that both Vela and Elmendorf had worked hard and performed well but that he would "feel better about it if Housley was well."

Vela is a 6-0, 188 pounder while Elmendorf at 6-1, 194 is one of the sophomores A&M is counting on to come through for them this season.

Among other sophomores who will be relied upon heavily are Jim Parker, Allan Hanson, Rusty Stallings and Mike DeNiro, according to Coach Stallings.

Parker, Hanson and Rusty Stallings, no kin to the coach, currently fill the three offensive line positions created when such players as Robert Cortez, Dan Schneider and Mark Weaver were up their eligibility last season.

Hanson is a 6-3, 218 pounder from Clear Creek while Parker, 6-1 198, is from Gonzales and Rusty Stallings, 6-1, 197, is from Midland Lee.

DeNiro at 6-0, 205 is the only newcomer to the Aggie defensive eleven. The Aggie athletic director said that the end is "not bad in practice but we've never seen him in a varsity game."

Stallings attended the LSU spring game and came away impressed more with their overall size than anything else.

"They could divide their team down the middle and both sides would still have a good team," Stallings said. "This is bad for us and good for them."

According to the Aggie coach, in order to win his team "can't make any mistakes—we can't have fumbles or interceptions, we have to get a good kicking game and play defense better than ever before."

The defending Southwest Conference champions had their last full speed contact, before playing LSU, last Wednesday. The squad is in good shape physically for the game outside of Housley and Winston Beam, according to Coach Stallings.



STALLINGS MEETS PRESS

Aggie head football coach and athletic director Gene Stallings is shown discussing his team's prospects with newsmen at a press conference in the Letterman's Lounge yesterday. Stallings said that A&M was in good shape physically for its opening game Saturday in Baton Rouge against the LSU Tigers. (Photo by Doc Hamilton)

Buckman Does Job Quietly; Leaves Publicity To Others

When Coach Gene Stallings talks about big Tom Buckman he always uses words like "under-rated" and "under publicized."

Buckman, at 6-4 and 216, has been A&M's starting tight end for two seasons. He's one of those guys who is so quietly efficient that he's overlooked. A splendid blocker and good receiver, he has already caught the at-

tention of many pro scouts, however.

In two varsity seasons at tight end, Buckman has caught 29 passes for 370 yards and one touchdown.

Buckman, despite his size, is quick and agile. He was an all-state basketball player at Fort Worth Carter-Riverside High and was all-district in football and baseball and lettered in track. He was an end in football, center in basketball, third baseman in baseball and ran on the mile relay team in track. He has run the mile in 5:10 since coming to A&M.

Why he has been overlooked as one of A&M's standouts is one of those unanswerable questions. He made a lot of big offensive plays last year as the Aggies rolled to their first SWC title since 1956. He was an outstanding blocker and he caught 13 passes for 197 yards, many of them coming on crucial third down situations.

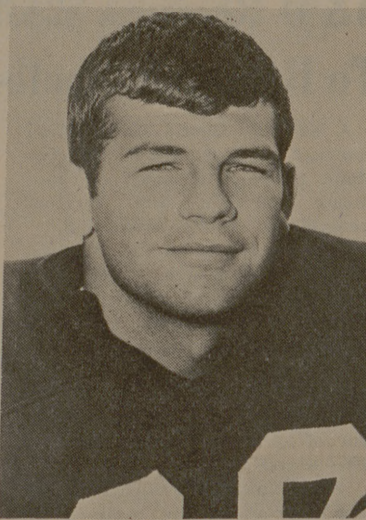
The 21 year-old, a civil engineering major who was a National Honor Society student in high school, was married this past summer.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Buckman of Fort Worth.

His father, class of '32 at Texas A&M, is city traffic engineer in Fort Worth.

Among the first crop of recruits when Gene Stallings and his staff took over at A&M, Buckman has contributed greatly to the Aggies' steady climb toward football prominence.

This week he's hopeful to make more offensive contributions when the Aggies square off against the LSU Tigers in Baton Rouge Saturday night.



TOM BUCKMAN

Ags Slip Notch In AP Rankings

Houston and Georgia cracked into the rankings as a weekend of only limited warfare produced a thorough shakeup in The Associated Press' major college football poll.

The top three—Purdue, Southern California and Notre Dame—were about the only teams to escape the madcap shuffle from the pre-season rankings.

Purdue attracted 14 of the 30 first-place votes and 584 points, while Southern Cal had eight and 536 and Notre Dame two and 488.

Houston, unmentioned in the preseason poll, leaped all the way to 11th after humiliating Tulane 54-7, and Georgia took over the No. 18 spot after a 17-17 tie with Tennessee that dropped the Vols from ninth to 12th.

Nebraska, only other ranked team in action over the weekend, remained 14th after a 13-10 last-minute victory over Wyoming.

Texas moved up a spot to fourth, trading place with Oklahoma, while Florida climbed a notch to sixth and Alabama moved from 10th to seventh.

Oregon State dropped from sixth to eighth, Ohio State moved from 11th to ninth and Penn State fell two spots to 10th to round out the top 10.

Texas A&M slipped from 12th to 13th, Indiana from 13th to 15th, Minnesota from 15th into a tie with UCLA for the 16th, Miami jumped from 20th to 19th and Louisiana State dropped from 18th to 20th.

PAINLESS KISS

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — A young New Zealander kissed a beautiful woman in the elevator after going to the dentist — and ended up in court on a charge of assaulting a female.

The court suppressed his name, convicted him and discharged him without penalty after his defense counsel explained that he had been "in a state of euphoria" following a massive dose of pain killer at the dentist's.

Said the defense counsel: "She was a woman of considerable pulchritude; in fact she is extremely beautiful."

Tigers' McLain Trains Sights On AL's MVP Award Now

"Denny McLain is pitching now the way Whitey Ford, Warren Spahn, and Bob Lemon used to," says Tiger pitching coach Johnny Sain in an article in the current issue of Sport Magazine.

Sain, commenting on the pitcher who became the first 30-game winner in baseball since Dizzy Dean in 1934, says:

"Denny's pitching like a big-leaguer should. With his kind of motion, I don't see why he can't be a good pitcher forever. He's got built-in control."

Sain, a perfectionist when it comes to analyzing and refining the art of pitching, adds:

"He's got as good an attitude for a pitcher as anyone I've ever seen. He's got self-control. You watch him out there. You never see him lose control of himself. No matter how much they may

be hitting him, he never loses his poise."

Other Tiger teammates are equally impressed with the development of the 24-year-old McLain, according to the Sport article.

"Denny is ten times the pitcher he was when he won 20 games two years ago," says hurling mate Earl Wilson. "And he's like so many young pitchers you see around today. He's fearless and he challenges you."

Tiger veteran Al Kaline chimes in: "What gets me about Denny is that he goes out there to complete the game. You don't see him trying to go five or six innings."

He's out there to go all the way." Dennis McLain could become the first pitcher to win the American League's Most Valuable Player award since Bobby Shantz in 1952 concludes the Sport article.

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