

FROM THE PRESSBOX

Ag Warmup Jerseys Cause Comment at LSU

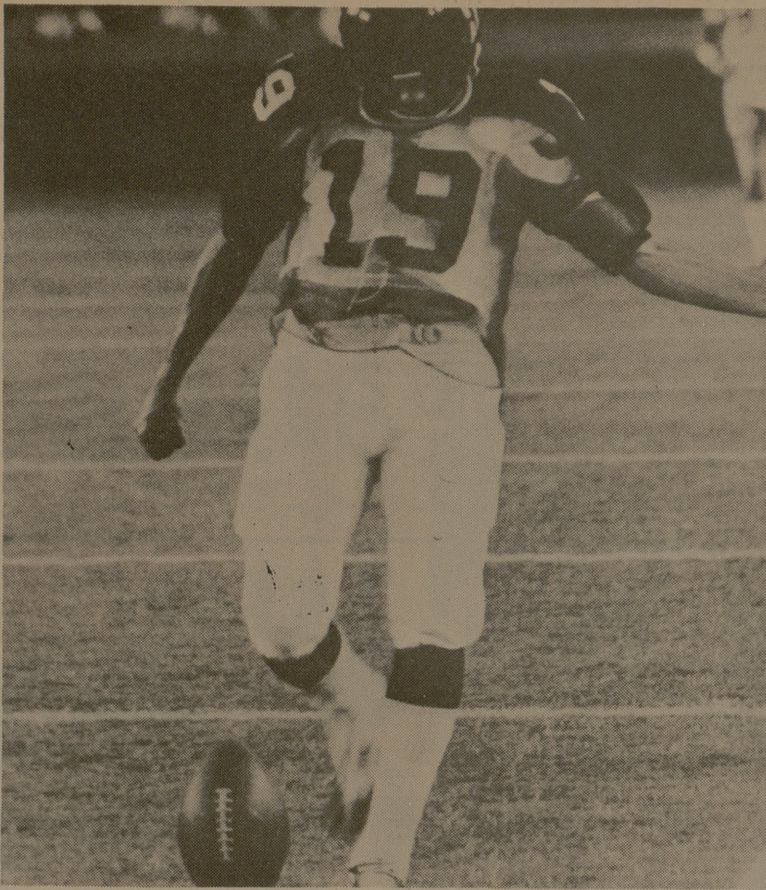
by Richard Campbell

There was a hassle of sorts in the LSU game over the weekend concerning the wearing of the new see-through mesh jerseys the Aggies wore when they took the field. A&M came out prior to gametime to go through their pre-game drills with the new net jerseys on. Coach Callings was informed that the jerseys were too similar to the white jerseys the Tigers were sporting. It's purely conjecture but these new jerseys are not that similar and even Tiger Coach Charley McClendon admitted at a after-the-game party that he was too friendly with Callings to ask him to have the Aggies change. However, that didn't seem to prevent him from bringing the situation to the attention of the referee. Not that these new jerseys would have made any difference in the score of the ballgame but it sure would have been a lot cooler for the Aggies with them on.

Steve O'Neal, the previous Aggie punting star, is running wild in the American Football League. Now punting for the New York Jets, he punted a 98-yarder against the Denver Broncos this weekend. He got a 65-yarder, the ball went over the head of the returner and it died in the Denver one after 98 long yards. O'Neal now owns the professional record for the longest punt. It seems that O'Neal had trouble sticking with the Jets because he had to beat out popular punter Curly Johnson and some of the older players gave him a rough time. Mike DeNiro talked with Joe Namath over the summer and Namath said that the vets were really giving O'Neal a hard time as a rookie but after he beat Johnson out they accepted him as their punter.

The New Orleans Saints made a boo-boo over the weekend and placed rookie A&M quarterback Edd Hargett on something called the "move list". They dropped him off of the active roster but fortunately one can pick him up because he is not on the waiver list. Being on the move list prevents Hargett from being claimed by any other team but it also prevents him from playing for at least 16 days. Edd was at the LSU game and said that the move was necessitated by resigning of punter Tom McNeil, who had been waived last week. After a brilliant season performance, it was expected that the Saints had the best young backup QB in pro ball. Edd had the best credentials of the season for Saint quarterbacks with 28 of 55 (50.9 percent) completions for 317 yards and four touchdowns and threw but one interception.

Just a short note to bring everyone up to date with some other Aggie players drafted by the pros. Of course, Hargett and O'Neal are accounted for. Others are George Resley, who stuck with the Houston Oilers through the exhibition season as a defensive tackle until the last bit. Rolf Krueger is a defensive end for the St. Louis Cardinals. Tommy Maxwell had a chance to start for the Baltimore Colts at a defensive fullback slot until a couple of weeks ago when he hurt his leg and was placed on the injured waiver list. Tom Buckman was cut by the Green Bay Packers but was picked by the Denver Broncos. Wendell Housley failed the physical for the Minnesota Vikings but is due to try again. Bill Hobbs is currently making some more big plays from punterback for the Philadelphia Eagles. Bob Long passed a chance with the Chicago Bears to try baseball and is currently on the A&M campus to help coach the baseball team.



NEW MESH JERSEYS

Mike Bellar, the placekicker for the Aggies, warms up before Saturday night's encounter with the LSU Tigers. These are the new see-through mesh jerseys which the Aggies wore in pre-game drills but could not wear in the game. (Photo by Mike Wright)

Reagan, Refugio Climb in Ratings

By The Associated Press

The upset bug caused a general reshuffling of the teams in the Dallas Morning News Schoolboy football poll Tuesday.

Odessa Permian, the 1968 state Class AAAA finalist and ranked No. 1 last week, dropped from the top 10 after it was defeated by Abilene Cooper.

Austin Reagan, shooting for its third straight state championship, moved into the top spot from No. 2.

Refugio moved into the No. 1 position in Class AAA after Lubbock Estacado, the defending state champion, was tied 7-7 by Brownwood. Estacado dropped to sixth place.

Sonora, the defending Class A champion, dropped from the No. 1 spot after losing to Reagan County 31-14. Sonora is No. 6 this week.

FOR BEST RESULTS TRY BATTALION CLASSIFIED

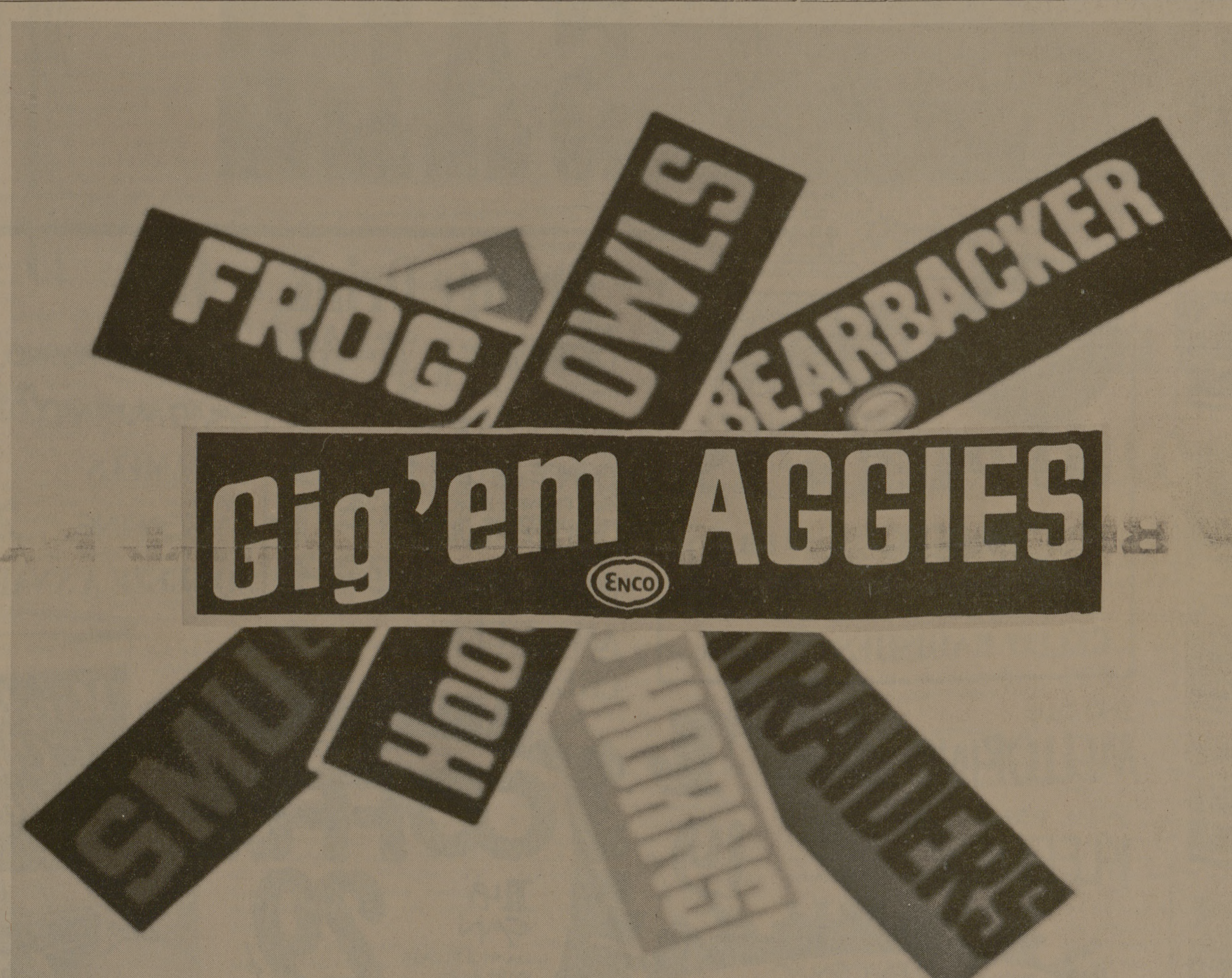
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