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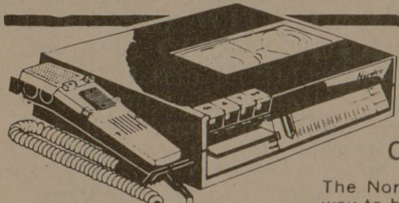
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Aggie Big Play Magic Greet Pories

By Richard Campbell
Battalion Sports Editor
Remember that ol' big play magic?

Well, don't whisper it too loud but it seems like the 1969 Texas Aggies may have rekindled the big play flame which characterized A&M's Southwest Conference champs in 1967.

If those fans on the east side of Kyle Field Saturday thought the sun was hot, they were undoubtedly right, but the field itself couldn't have been passed over by many fire marshals.

The Southern Methodist Mustangs departed from the characteristics aerial game but quarterback Chuck Hixson still managed to scorch the field between the 20-yard lines, but it was all for naught as the big play Aggies rose to the occasion to mash the Pories, 20-10.

Hixson was never more accurate in defeat as he hit on 22 of 33 tosses for 242 yards but failed to connect on even one aerial scoring strike as the Cadets, led by defensive end Mike DeNiro, toughened time after time when the Mustangs neared the goal line. DeNiro had one of his best of many outstanding games as he applied pressure to the usually quick-throwing Hixson to halt the SMU offensive machine short of a score all but one time.

The Pories surprised everyone as they apparently deserted the offensive route which had made Hixson the most feared college passer in the nation. Instead, Hixson spent much of the afternoon sliding the ball into the bellies of small Gordon Gilder and smaller Daryl Doggett. Doggett finished with 94 yards on 19 carries and Gilder added 54 on 14 trips.

After seven so-so contests, the Aggies finally came to life and instead of making mistakes themselves, they forced the Pories into errors of their own and then capitalized on them. This is A&M's first win over SMU since 1964.

High-stepping Steve Burks, a 5-10, 170-pound tailback from Dumas, stole the show from everyone as he collected 100 yards rushing on only four carries to become the leading ground gainer in the game. Playing in the backup position behind all-SWC runner Larry Stegert, Burks really never got a chance to show his fancy moves and fine speed, but Saturday he made believers of the Mustangs at least. He stepped off a 57-yard run from scrimmage, the longest Aggie jaunt of the year, on his first carry

and then put the game out of reach on his final carry when he broke free again for a 37-yard touchdown.

The Aggies changed their defensive strategy by adding another defensive back to offset the Pories' aerial game and found that it worked to their satisfaction as the frustrated Methodists only found the goal line once, on a 64-yard drive in the first quarter.

Although giving up 373 total yards, the Cadets constantly stopped SMU when it really counted. Twice they applied enormous pressure when Hixson did pass, causing him to throw two interceptions, both stopping SMU drives.

With quarterback Rocky Self playing perhaps his best game of the year, the Aggies mounted three long drives to account for their scoring. Self constantly was on target to Barney Harris, Ross Bruppacher, and Jimmy Adams to give the Mustangs a taste of their own airborne medicine. He hit several key third-down passes to keep the Aggies' hopes alive and ended the afternoon with nine completions in 16 attempts for 145 yards and a touchdown. The scoring pass was a 28-yard strike to Bruppacher, his fifth of the year.

But the whole story was DeNiro, who looked at times like he belonged in the SMU backfield, getting to Hixson to either smother him for a loss or pressure him into an interception. The best example came in the fourth quarter when the Mustangs trailing 20-10 and camped on the Aggie 5. Hixson rolled out to the left looking for his tight end Ken Flemming but DeNiro leaped one blocker and fought his way around another to jump on Hixson just before he released the ball. It flew away from Fleming into the hands of Aggie rover Steve Luebbehusen, who took it one yard in the end zone and returned it to the A&M 31. And that sealed the fate of the Pories, who now stand 2-6 for the year.



COME BACK HERE, BALL

Aggie fullback Marc Black leaps for his fumble and beats SMU's Bill Wright to coveted pigskin. The fumble came in the fourth period with about 3:25 left with the ball on the Aggies 33 yard line. (Photo by Mike Wright)

T.U. Tickets Go On Sale

Tickets for the Texas A&M-Texas game will go on sale to graduates and seniors at 7 a.m. Thursday at the athletic department ticket office.

Juniors can buy tickets Friday, sophomores Monday and freshmen Tuesday.

Approximately 1,200 tickets for seats on the cinder track for the game will go on sale Monday at the Athletic Department Ticket Office.

The seats will be temporary folding chairs on the east side of Kyle Field. There are 600 bleacher seats in the end zone available.



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McLaren Takes First TIS Race

Bruce McLaren fought stifling heat but hung on Sunday to take first place in the Canadian-American Challenge Cup, the inaugural race at Bryan-College Station's Texas International Speedway.

While many notables like Ma-

rio Andretti, Chris Amon and Jackie Oliver dropped out because of overheated engines, the 32-year old New Zealander coasted around the 70 laps to survive and win his second Cup in the four-year history of the series.

McLaren expressed surprise that his MSB 427-cu. inch car turned the top time of the day with 210.5 miles per hour on the straightaway.

"It was amazing," he added. His average speed was 109.845.

The race was going smoothly until the 46th lap, where McLaren's teammate, Denis Hulme, who was leading, dropped out with a broken piston. From there the heat took its toll and McLaren crossed the finish line 1:24 ahead of runnerup George Eaton. Jack Brabham was third.

McLaren finished the 11-race series with 165 points, five ahead of Hulme, although the latter tops the money list with \$111,000. \$15,000 for Sunday's race and \$50,000 for the series victory went to McLaren.

Twenty-two cars started the race with Andretti opening up a small lead. But on the fourth lap, Hulme gave the crowd of 24,600 a thrill when he passed the Indy winner for the lead.

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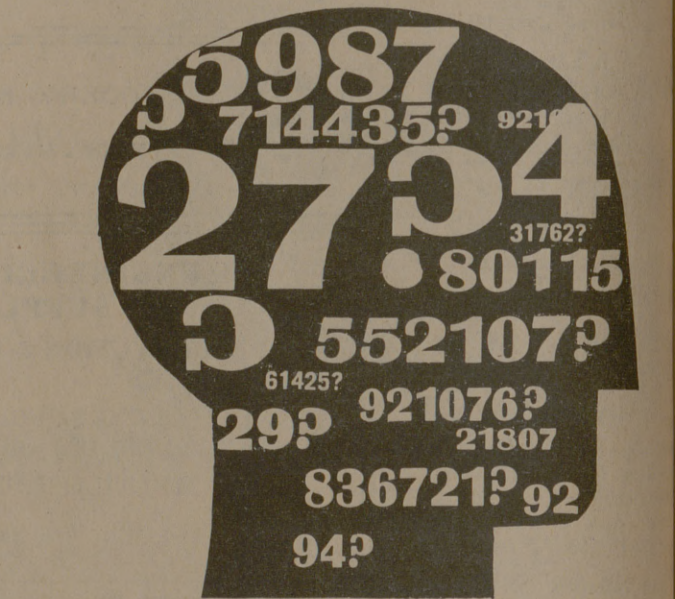
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for further information, contact
Dave Mayfield, Chairman (846-5278)
or
The Director's Office MSC (845-1915)
"Ski the Alps—1970" Committee, a part of the MSC Travel Committee
(open to Faculty, Staff, and Student of Texas A&M University)

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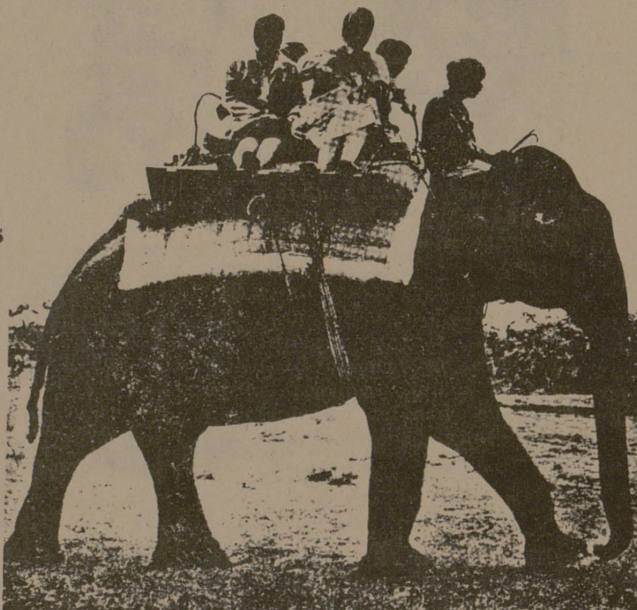
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