

Sophomores hold key

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Mark Black returns to man his fullback post but Junior Doug Neill had a good spring and is applying pressure to Black who was the Ags third leading rusher last year.

Jimmy Sheffield, who's played a little bit of everything for the Aggies will probably be the number one punter. The boomer from Houston had a 39.8 yard average last year. Robertson also will do some punting.

Junior Joey Herr and Mitch Robertson currently hold down the number one end spots as they try to fill the slots vacated by Barney Harris and Ross Brupbacher, who were both drafted by the pros.

Homer May, John Swedeen and Tommy Goodwin, top three receivers on the Fish team last year, are expected to add to receiving depth.

Swedeen, who grabbed 17 for three touchdowns last year and missed spring training with mononucleosis is back this fall to try to earn a varsity spot.

Five lettermen return to add fortifications to the Aggies' offensive line, with the right side being guarded by Leonard Forey and Andy Philley on the first unit and Winston Beam and Mike Fields on the second unit. Squadman Leonard Millsap and Benny DeWitt finished the spring in the offensive line and sophomores Buster Calloway, Gary Martin and Fred Placke and Robert Gerasimowicz not far behind.

Sophomore Mike Park is the number one center and junior letterman Ted Smith backs him up.

The Aggies' defensive unit is filled with sophomores who either worked their way to the best in their position or not far from it by the end of spring training.

Left defensive end Todd Christopher is one of four sophs who are listed on the depth chart at that spot. James Dubcak, another candidate for the spot, had an outstanding spring game, along with Christopher.

Left defensive guard is also in the hands of a sophomore, as Boice Best is currently number one. Wayne Whet, the number two man in spring drills, failed to show up for practice, so the battle for that post continues with sophomores Butch Kamps, Eddie Hooper and Oscar Castillo and junior squadman Tommy Deaton in the running.

Sophomore Max Bird is a top candidate for the right end spot with letterman Bruce Hinnant working number two after spring drills.

Clifton Thomas and Bruce Best head a list of four sophomores battling for the left linebacker position, and another soph Kent Finley finished spring practice

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as the number one right linebacker.

The defense has its veterans though, and their known talents, combined with the sophomores' know-how, give the Aggies defense a good report.

Middle linebacker Mike Lord has looked good in the opening days of practice and right defensive guard Van Odom is a top defensive guard.

The defensive backfield is completely stocked with vets as All-SWC pick Elmendorf is the free safety, with letterman Mike Bunker backing him. Letterman David Hoot is the strong safety and Ed Ebrom and Corky Sheffield give experience to the cornerbacks. Letterman Chris Johnson gives added depth.

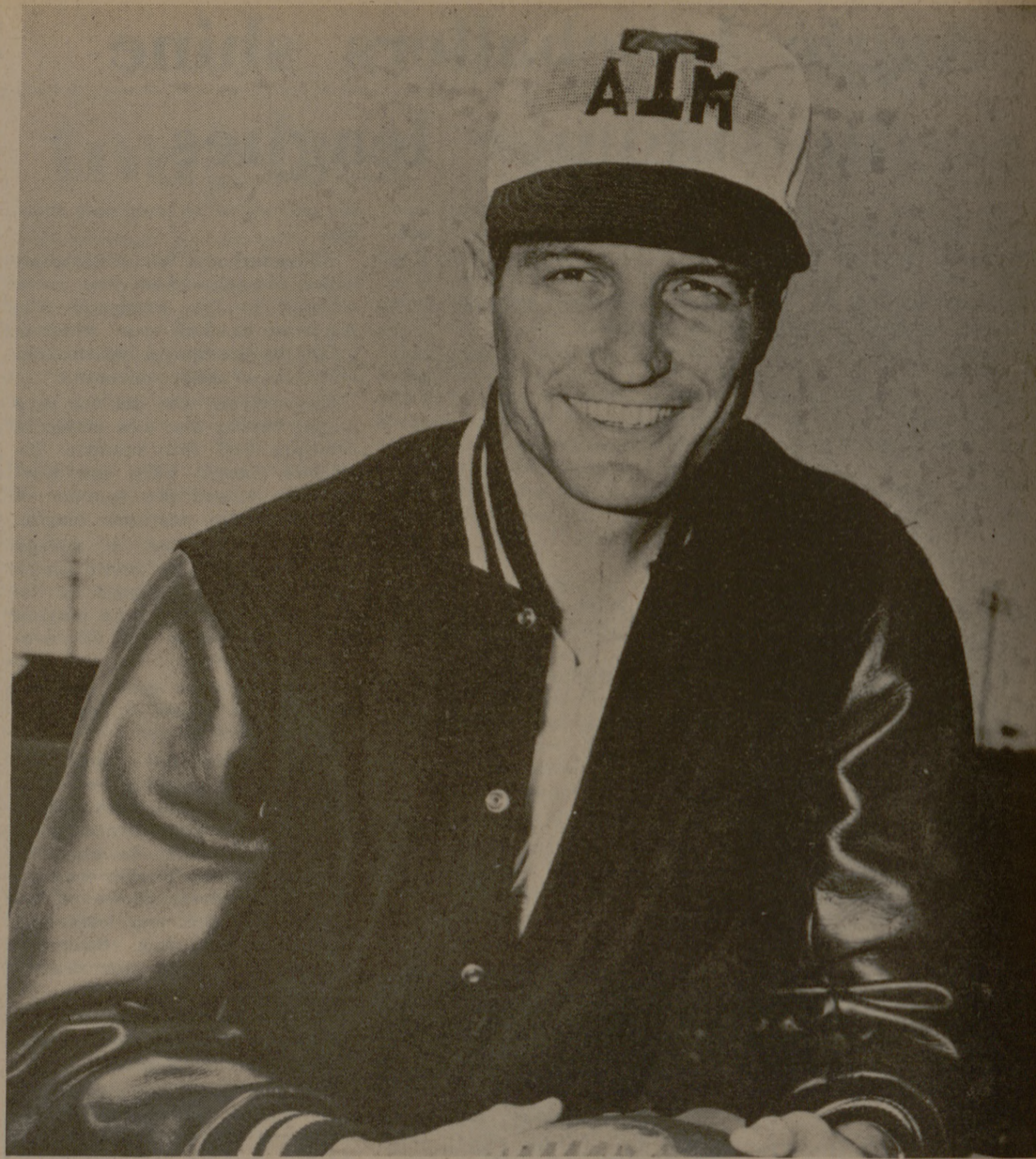
Mike Bellar, the number one place-kicker last year, is receiving a top challenge for his job from soccer-style-kicking sophomore Pat McDermott who notched a 22-yard field goal in the first scrimmage this fall.

The Aggies are definitely a young group, with 64 sophomores listed on the depth chart. At two positions there are four players listed and all are first year men.

This lack of experience will usually tell on a normal schedule but the Ags this season face a murder's row line-up with LSU, Ohio State, Michigan, Arkansas and UT-Austin on the schedule.

But this group of sophomores and juniors is definitely a talented force, and combining this with a small group of seniors to provide the leadership, 1970 just might be a year to watch the Aggies.

Only time will tell.



Coach Gene Stallings

Coach Stallings has ten-man staff

Coach Gene Stallings will have a 10-man staff working with him this fall when he leads the Texas Aggies against the demons of the Southwest Conference.

Elmer Smith is the Aggies assistant head coach. Smith now in his 17th year on the A&M coaching staff, is serving his sixth year under coach Stallings.

Dee Powell, the Aggies defensive coach, is in his sixth year on the A&M football staff and fifth as head defensive coach. Powell

played guard and center for A&M from 1955 to 1957.

Bud Moore is the head offensive coach and is now in his fifth season.

Jack Hurlbut will be beginning his sixth year as an assistant for the Aggies and his fifth in charge of the quarterbacks. A former Alabama football player, Hurlbut played in three different bowl games for the Crimson Tide.

Charlie Bradshaw, a 15-year veteran of coaching in the South-

eastern Conference, joins the A&M staff this year and is in charge of the offensive line.

Bobby Marks, an All-SWC end for A&M in 1957, joined the staff in 1969. He is in charge of the receivers.

John Paul Young, former coach at SMU, joined the staff this year and is coaching the linebackers. Young was an all-conference linebacker at UTEP.

Barney Welch, who played for

the Aggies in 1942 and 46-47 joins the staff this fall as coordinator of the Aggies football recruiting.

Jim Keller served one year as a graduate assistant at A&M before being named to head the Fish team. His two Fish teams have a combined record of 9-1.

Harvey Aschenbeck, a member of the SWC champions of 1967 joined the staff as an assistant late this summer.

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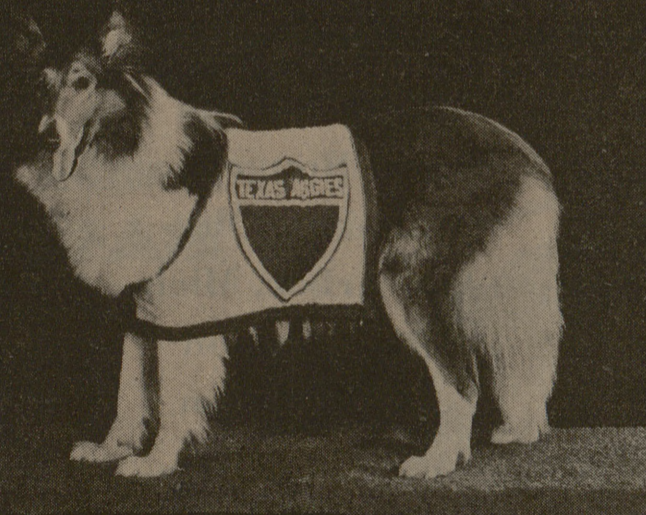
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'71 AGGIELAND PICTURE SCHEDULE

Freshmen: A-D Sept. 8-11
E-M Sept 14-18
N-S Sept. 21-25
T-Z Sept 28 - Oct. 2

Make-ups Oct. 5-9
Civilians—Coat & ties
Corps—Class A Winter

Watch BATTALION for Dates!

NOTE: Students needing pictures early may come ahead of schedule. For limited make-ups, call University Studio for information, 846-8019.

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