

Loaded with experience and depth

Battle-tested offensive line ready for 1975

By MIKE BRUTON
Sports Editor

Batt sports

What's big, maroon and likes to make holes? If you haven't already guessed, it's the A&M offensive line.

No segment of the Aggie football team has drawn more criticism in recent years than the offensive front. But the 1975 offensive line-men should keep all Aggie football pessimists very quiet during the season.

With all starters returning, except Ricky Seeker at center, this year's blockers have an abundance of experience to go along with excellent depth, size and talent. Replacing Seeker at center will be Henry Tracy, with Bruce Welch and Craig Glendenning at the guards, joined by Glen Bujnoch and Dennis Swilley at the tackles.

Come September 13, you'll see virtually the same A&M offensive front that lined up and blew LSU and Texas Tech out of the stadium in 1974. And both the Tigers and Red Raiders had above average defensive football teams.

Actually, the offensive line was consistent throughout the season, as nearly every starting Aggie lineman made the first two All-SWC teams. In fact, the entire line blocked so well against Tech, until they were named the Offensive Players of the Week in the Southwest Conference by the Dallas Morning News.

They've sufficiently proven themselves under fire and criticism. They're a year wiser, a year stronger and ready to turn in what could probably be the best all-around blocking performance in recent Aggie football history. Offensive Line Coach Dan LaGrasta and assistant Bob Stanley has done an outstanding job in developing a young, inexperienced group of men into an awesome force.

And awesome they are. The front five average 242.6 pounds per man and are as agile as a gymnast. With people of this nature leading interference, the Aggies should field a strong offensive football team.

Tracy, (6-2, 223) the midge of the line, is a hustler. He churns and churns with his legs and utilizes his quickness to compensate for his lack of size. Tracy's best attribute is consistency. And being the center, this is of utmost importance for he must touch the football on every of-

fensive play, making certain that the quarterback has the ball securely. He's seen a lot of action, though he

played behind All-SWC center Seeker last season. At one guard will be Welch, (6-4,

250) who packs a powerful wallop when he comes off the ball. He played a huge part in the success of the A&M offense against LSU last year. The senior from Houston repeatedly knocked his man four and five yards off the line of scrimmage, which cut off the pursuit of half the Tiger defense. Welch is the kind of blocker that a

quarterback goes to in a fourth-and-one situation. He's a clutch blocker. He's also very effective on trap and sweep plays where he uses his agility and speed to pull and get out in front of the ball carrier.

The other guard position will be manned by Glendenning, (6-3, 238), who won the starting berth from All-SWC guard Billy Lemons

during the spring. The never-quit attitude that conquered the No. 1 spot for Glendenning is what makes him a good blocker.

When the quarterback barks the snap count, Glendenning is off like a shot and he stays with his man like his life depends on it. He stops only when he hears the whistle. He is not as over-powering as Lemons, but he

gets the job done.

Swilley, (6-4, 257) also captured a starting job at one of the tackle slots, unseating Dennis Smelser during the spring drills. He is extremely quick for his size and delivers a solid blow coming off the mark. He's the

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Calf Recipe

CALF SUPREME

1½ lbs. calf steak (round or tip), ½" thick
½ cup butter
½ bay leaf
½ cup white wine

Cut calf steak in thin strips about 1" wide and 8" long. Roll in seasoned flour and tie each strip in a knot. Saute in butter until well browned. Add bay leaf. Cover and cook slowly for 20 minutes, turning occasionally. Add white wine and heat just to boiling. Season with salt and pepper to taste and serve at once. Serves 6.

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Old Timers to perform on Saturday

ARLINGTON, Tex. — A roll call of former St. Louis Cardinal greats, including Stan Musial and Country Slaughter, plus a team of former American League stars, headed by Joe DiMaggio, Bob Feller and Mickey Mantle, meet in the second annual Old Timers game at Arlington Stadium on Saturday.

The Old Timers, who will play a brief contest before the Texas-Boston game, will take batting practice at 6 p. m., followed by introductions and gametime at 7:15 p. m. The Rangers-Red Sox game will begin at 8:35 p. m. instead of the normal 8 p. m. starting time.

Pinpointing one player or one event from this classic lineup of stars is impossible. The record books are bulging with the names of many of the men who will be on hand on July 19.

The Cardinal roster includes Harry Walker, Vinegar Bend Mizell, Solly Hemus, Harry Brecheen, Paul Dean, Whitey Kurowski, Bob Uecker, Lon Warneke, Wally Moon, Terry Moore and Ken Boyer.

Suiting up for the American League stars will be Roy Sievers, Hoot Evers, Pete Runnels, Johnny Pesky, Bobby Doerr, Al Rosen, Hoyt Wilhelm, Luke Appling, Don Larsen and Haywood Sullivan.

Tickets for the Old Timers game are now on sale at all Rangers ticket outlets and at the Arlington Stadium ticket office.

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