

Threatens all-time rushing record

# Bean puts SWC title before personal goals

By DAVID WALKER  
Staff Sports Writer

Throughout the years number 44 has been worn by many sports greats. Donny Anderson wore it at Texas Tech and throughout his pro career with the Packers and the Cardinals. John David Crow won the Heisman Trophy in 1957 at A&M wearing it and Hank Aaron has hit a bunch of home runs with it on his jersey.

Another number 44 begins his final season this year and like the others his name will be in the record books for a long time.

His name is Bubba Bean, and while he has the entire 1975 season ahead of him, his past is good enough already to have his name dotted throughout the Aggie record book.

Bean is only 513 yards behind Bob Smith on the A&M career rushing list. He has gained 1,902 yards on 338 carries while Smith has 2,415 on 439 attempts.

The Kirbyville native has led the Aggies in rushing for the past two

years and was named to four post season all-Southwest Conference teams last year. His 938 rushing yards last year was the second highest season rushing mark in Aggie history. Once again Bob Smith leads with 1,302 yards for the 1950 season. Bean's 711 yards during his sophomore year ranks as the fourth highest single season mark.

If the rushing isn't enough he led all backs last year in the pass receiving category with nine receptions for 143 yards.

While Bean's past has been an excellent one, there is one thing lacking from his list of accomplishments: a SWC championship.

"All of those things are really secondary to me," Bean said. "This is our last go around, and we're going to make the best of it. If those records happen that's OK, but they are in the back of my mind until we win the conference championship."

Bean had plenty of success with the T-bone last year but expects more this year with the I-bone.

"I like running from the I-back," Bean said. "It's sort of freelance. I'll

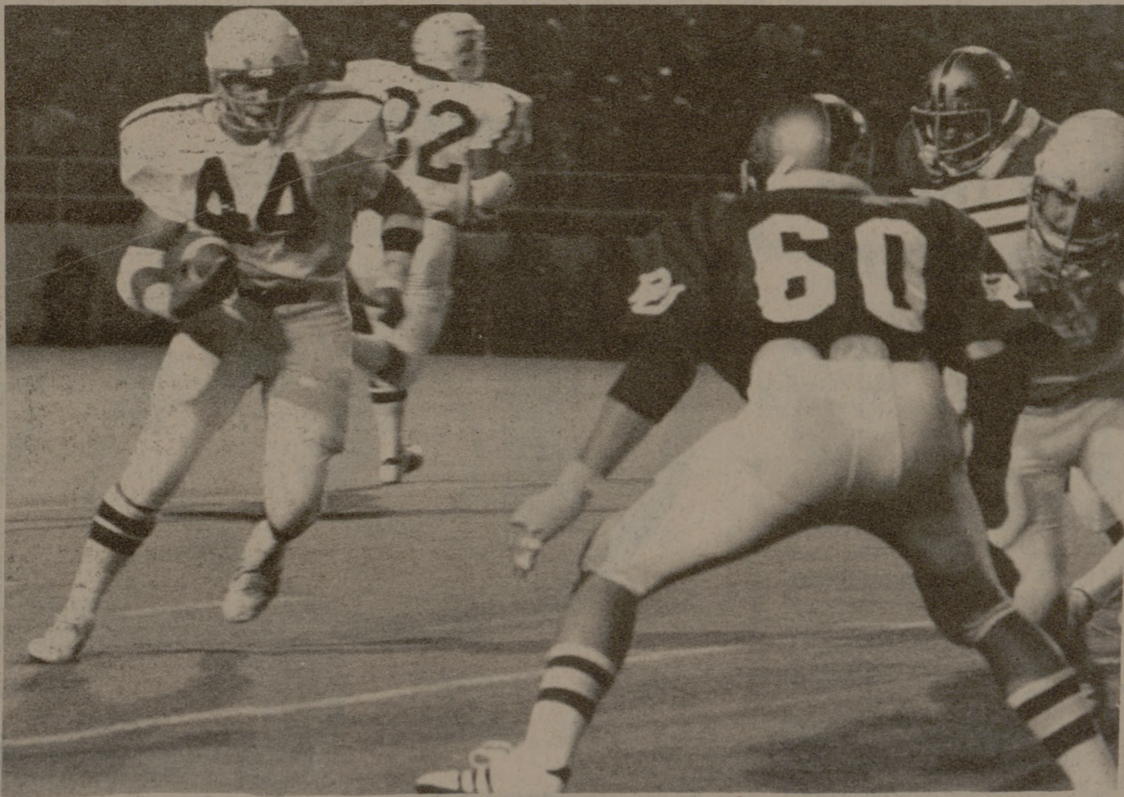
get the ball six yards behind the line and just run. With the T-Bone I had a set place to run but now I can just pick my place. I also think that will help the linemen. Instead of having to block a man to the right or left they can just block him which ever way is easiest for him and I can run where there is a hole."

Bean gives credit to new Aggie Offensive Coordinator Tom Wilson for adding a little new life to the offense.

"He's had an influence on the team that makes them really want to play. He doesn't harp on mistakes. If someone makes a mistake he tells them about it once and then it's past," he said.

"Another thing I like is that he's not afraid to do anything to win, I mean he would just as soon throw a bomb on first and ten," Bean said.

One thing's for certain, while Bubba Bean may very well be the all-time leading Aggie rusher after next season he won't be happy unless he has some Cotton Bowl yardage in the total.



Bubba Bean in action against Baylor.

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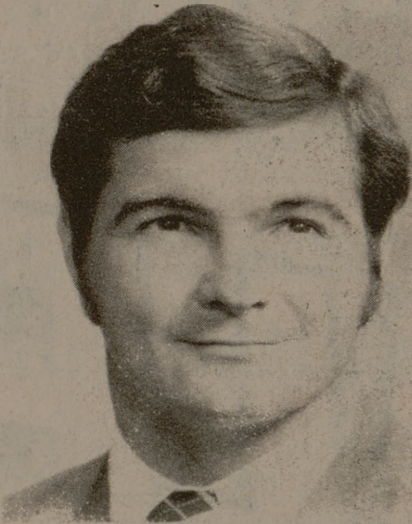
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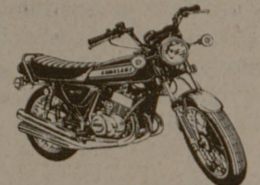
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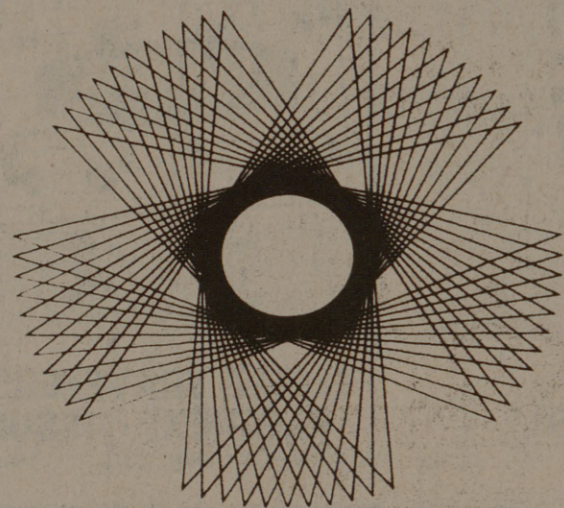
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