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## Game starts at 12:50 p.m.

# Ags' perfect mark on trial

**Battalion Sports Writer** 

Texas A&M places its undefeated record and six-game home-field winning streak on the line tomorrow before a regional television audience as the Fighting Illini pay a visit to Aggieland. Kickoff is set for 12:50

Illinois stands even on the year

ously and has a 1-5 record against

The Illini of Coach Bob Blackman bring with them a more than capable offense. They scored 20 points against a Missouri team that held Alabama to just a field goal, and was the number two defense in the

Blackman has seven returnees to with a win over Iowa and then fal- his offensive squad off a 6-4-1 sea-



Illinois punter Phil Viernei- Kyle Field as he is known for sel set to send one flying. Vierneisel could be crucial in Saturday's meeting at

thrashing of the semi-potent LSU Tigers. A rejuvenated offense and the Maroon to the number eight spot in the Associated Press poll.

This marks the first meeting between the Cadets and the orange and blue of Illinois. A&M has faced three other Big Ten schools previa prowess at hanging punts for seven seconds in the air.

ling short against nationally ranked
Missouri.

The Aggies are fresh off a 39-8

son. In the backfield, the chief threat is tailback Chubby Phillips.
Phillips gained 772 yards for the Illini last year before being sidelined with a knee operation. At fullback is an impregnable defense has boosted the Maroon to the number eight who also had knee problems in

> Quarterback is still not settled although sophomore Kurt Steger appears to have the edge. Illinois is fairly strong at tight end

> > G-K

L-0

P-S

T-Z

and split end with the likes of John Smalzer and Jeff Chrystal return-

The defense is entirely another matter as only three starters return. The left side of the line appears secure with end Dean March and tackle John DiFeliciantonio manning the bulwarks although top backups are injured. This duo is twothirds of Illinois' returning defensive lettermen. The third is halfback Bruce Beaman.

Illinois lines up in a 4-4 defensive formation with only three defensive backs. The Illini key against the run

from the LSU game and will line up in virtually the same way as last week. Pat Thomas, who has been having ankle problems, will be a probable starter.

The previously-maligned A&M offense came alive and now seems as potent as all pre-season expecta-tions indicated. It will be interesting to see how A&M attacks the virtual eight man line of the Illini. The green defensive backfield could have its hands full containing Carl

Roaches and Richard Osborne. The experience of the Aggies ver-

After such a spectacular win last week the Aggies could be headed for a letdown emotionally. This will be another key to the outcome of the

Another feature item is the effect the new NCAA rule concerning the limiting of travel squads to only 48 men will have. This is the first weekend of games to which the rule will be applied. A&M will be suiting up 60 men, a dozen more than the



Skip Walker: Premier Aggie halfback, chapter one

but the necessary experience in the linebacker positions is lacking. All four of last year's linebackers left with diplomas.

Despite his defensive handicaps, Blackman maintains an air of optimism. "We sincerely feel we won't face an opponent that we aren't cap-

able of beating," he said.

The Aggies will be wearing the tag of opponent this week and will be carrying a lot of momentum into the contest after their party in Louisiana last week.

A&M now is leading the nation in total defense after two games, surrendering an average of 98 yards per



Aggie coach Emory Bellard makes a point. Could it be symbolic?

# 1976 AGGIELAND

# Class Picture Schedule

## **FRESHMEN**

Sep 22-Sep 26 Sep 29-Oct 3 Oct 6-Oct 10

N-S T-Z FISH MAKEUPS

Oct 13-Oct 17 Oct 20-Oct 24 Oct 27-Oct 31 Nov 3-Nov 7 Nov 10-Nov 14

Nov 17-Dec 19 MAKEUPS FOR SENIORS **AND GRADUATES** 

**SENIORS & GRADUATES** 

#### **JUNIORS AND SOPHOMORES**

Jan 19-Jan 23 A-G H-M Jan 26-Jan 30 Feb 2-Feb 6 N-R S-V Feb 9-Feb 13 W-Z Feb 16-Feb 20 Feb 23-Mar 12 MAKEUPS FOR SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS ONLY

Dress: Civilians — Coat and Tie Coeds — Optional

> Corps (Fish & Soph) — Class A Winter Corps (Jrs. & Srs.) — Midnights

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Photographs are taken on a drop-in basis, 8-5 weekdays and 8-12 Sat.

For further information contact

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