

BATT PICKS

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A&M-VIRGINIA TECH	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M
TEXAS-BOSTON COLLEGE	Texas	Boston	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	T.C.U.
S.M.U.-T.C.U.	S.M.U.	T.C.U.	T.C.U.	S.M.U.	S.M.U.	T.C.U.	S.M.U.	T.C.U.
BAYLOR-HOUSTON	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor
ARKANSAS-UTAH STATE	Ark.	Ark.	Ark.	Ark.	Ark.	Ark.	Ark.	Ark.
TEXAS TECH-COLORADO	Tech.	Tech.	Tech.	Tech.	Colo.	Tech.	Colo.	Tech.
NOTRE DAME-PITTSBURGH	Pitt.	Pitt.	Pitt.	Notre Dame	Pitt.	Pitt.	Notre Dame	Pitt.
OHIO ST.-MICH. ST.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Mich. St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.	Ohio St.
GEORGIA-CALIF.	Georgia	Calif.	Calif.	Georgia	Calif.	Georgia	Calif.	Calif.
NEBRASKA-L.S.U.	Neb.	L.S.U.	Neb.	Neb.	Neb.	Neb.	Neb.	Neb.

Aggies eager to open campaign

New football season is here at last

By GERARD O'DONOVAN
Guest Commentary

At about 3:30 pm on Saturday, the 1976 version of the Texas Aggie football team will make their appearance at Kyle Field before what I hope will be a packed house. Their last appearance was on November 28, 1975 when they beat Texas. With cautious optimism they take the field against Virginia Tech, a team that has already one victory beneath its belt this year.

It has been a long wait since that November day but I have a hunch that the wait was worthwhile. Henry David Thoreau wrote, "Not till we are lost...do we begin to understand ourselves." We began that painful process just as John McKay was winning his last college game; we learned more from our two defeats than we did while winning ten. Were it not for the fact that Dick Vermeil (UCLA) outcoached Woody Hayes and knocked Ohio State from its too lofty perch, I might have done myself an injury over the Christmas holidays!

If an average sports fan like myself can feel as I did, can you imagine

how the Aggie players and coaches must have felt?

You can't, but if you want to forget the end of 1975 forever, why not pay a visit to Kyle Field on Saturday and watch the Aggies play.

They are less talkative than last year but their game plan is to let their intensity of play do the talking. To go all the way, one has to win the first one, and then take them one at a time. Every team, including the Southwest Conference officers en masse, are always skyhigh when they play the Aggies! The oft mentioned names of Bean, Thomas, Osborne, TenNapel and Simonini will be heard no more but listen for Jackson, Woodard, Fields, Marshall, Shipman, Hayes, Dickey, Floyd, and Teate — and you will know that old football seasons never end, merely a new one begins.

If we could get rid of all the current SWC officers and most of the benevolent despots of the NCAA it would be an auspicious way to begin the new season. Many coaches have it up to here with the tomfoolery of the NCAA in the guise of economy and from what we hear, wait until

next year. The NCAA has done very little positive since 1929. Where have they stood on the key issues? Aside! Last year they told everyone how many players could travel and how many players could suit up for home games. This year they told every-one how many coaches could suit up, on State and Local University property! Next year it will be the number of athletic scholarships that may be given. Would you believe 95?

Now, Southern folk have always been known for their sanity and love of sports and though the SWC may not be the best around, it is far from being the worst. Wherever it stands, the "good old boys" who run the show are making damn sure that the Conference will sink lower by reestablishing the limit of 55 players per game. I understand there was a vote on it a vote that will haunt Texas against Oklahoma, Arkansas against Oklahoma State and even more so, the weaker members of the conference when they play a non-SWC team.

A change is needed among the heads of the SWC, from the commissioner on down. Incumbency eats away at those all important neurons. In honor of the game, I exhort each member of the SWC "ruling body" to retire and let a new era take over. Too long have we listened to drivel, too long have we waited to hear what happens behind closed doors. No two issues are treated alike and in every "race" there is a favorite and the NCAA has its own. Meanwhile let us ignore such trivia and play ball.

There are those armchair quarterbacks and bathroom linemen who walk around campus nonchalantly cursing about our dismal end to last season. There are those who tell me that "without the pass the game of football is unexciting." I was at Cal during the Craig Morton days and he was the best passer around; look where it got the Golden Bears. There was another young fellow at Navy then, by the name of

Staubach—he even won the Heisman Trophy and guess where his passing got him against Texas in the Cotton Bowl? You can look it up! Anyone who believes the Aggies will become a passing team better brace himself/herself, for they won't. But any coach who thinks that A&M will play dead when they see a 10 or 11 man line, have something else coming. We will pass out of the 6 wishbone just as we will run out of the "I." I would not want Rod Laver making a 10-footer for me at Pebble Beach anymore than I would opt for Jack Nicklaus to kick a penalty goal (place kick) for the TAMU Rugby team. By the same token I prefer to see the coach work on the T (for total) wishbone offense and for Tom Wilson to call the passing plays should the "T" begin to sputter. That is precisely the way it will be, all the way to the Cotton Bowl. There we will contain Tony Dorsett when the time comes.

Any commentary like this one would be remiss if it did not offer an extra special congratulations to the recruiters for the fantastic job last year. And may I predict that they have only just begun! A barnyard of Secretariats are visible proofs that high school stars like what they see in Smalltown, USA.

It is fitting to crawl out on a limb at this time and make a few predictions. I see no reason at all why the 1976 Aggies will not enter the Texas game undefeated. By then I expect that Texas will have lost two, and neither to Oklahoma. Two years ago I selected Baylor to win the SWC and boasting aside, I even gave the correct score in the Baylor-Texas game. This Baylor team is better than the team of two years ago and though I respect what I saw of Texas' defense at Kyle Field last November, I cannot buy it that a highly rated team such as Texas would have a walk-on mooring signals. And moreover, his back-up, Ted Constanzo could not start for any other team. I repeat, any other

SWC team.

The Aggies have Baylor and Tech at Kyle Field and Dr. D (for Defense) will handle those two offense-minded foes, the diminutive one has no peer in the art of defense. At Aggieland they call him Melvin! If Baylor can beat Tech they may well have but one SWC loss, to us.

I'm told that Memorial Stadium in Austin can be beautiful in November. I was there a few times when I decided, alone, to beat the halftime traffic back to College Station. "C'est la vie," which is Texan for "Hook 'em Horns!" Now that the stigma of ever beating Texas in every phase of the game has been wiped out forever, the venue no longer makes much difference.

We wish Keith Baker, the running man, a speedy recovery and the best of good luck and health to Coach Bellard and all his charges. And as the 1976 team takes the field around 3:30 pm next Saturday I expect a standing rumble burst of applause. The Aggie crowds have become loud again so let us not be the ones to be the silent majority. See you there.

JOINS MARCO STAFF

MARCO ISLAND, Fla. (AP) — Former golfing great Gene Sarazen, has tutored Ladies PGA proette Pat Bradley of Westford, Mass., for years. Now she's on the staff at Deltona Country Club where Sarazen directs the Tony Lema Memorial pro-am each March.

Ms. Bradley, who turned pro less than three years ago, earned more than \$39,000 the first six months on the 1976 tour. She recently won the Girl Talk Classic in New Rochelle, N. Y.

Other pros who aided Ms. Bradley, 25, are John Wirbal of Nashua, N. H., and Eddie Bush of Miami. Their coaching helped her win the New England title for a second time in 1973.

College draft declared illegal

Associated Press
NEW YORK — With the National Football League almost certain to appeal the ruling against its college draft, representatives of the owners and players agree that the chance of a modified draft has been improved.

U.S. District Judge William B. Bryant ruled in Washington Wednesday that the stocking of 28 teams with the nation's collegiate talent, the NFL's current system, is illegal because it violates antitrust laws. Bryant said the draft is, in effect, an agreement among NFL club owners "that the right to negotiate with each top-quality graduating college athlete will be allocated to one team, and that no other team will deal with that person."

"This outright, undisguised refusal to deal constitutes a group boycott in its classical and most pernicious form, a device which has long

been condemned as per se violation of the antitrust laws, the court continued.

Ed Garvey, executive director of the NFL Players Association, pressed delight at the ruling, suggesting it might spur the owners to be more conciliatory in talks aimed at achieving a basic agreement with the players' union.

Sargent Karch, executive director of the NFL Management Council, the owner's bargaining team, said the decision produced optimism.

Bryant, he said, had expressed opinion that if an agreement on draft were to be part of a basic pact, it therefore would be exempt from antitrust action. And Karch said Bryant stated that the draft also is a mandatory part of any collective bargaining. Garvey publicly taken the opposite viewpoint in instances.

Women volleyballers travel to Houston

The women's intercollegiate volleyball team gets its 1976 season underway this weekend in Houston with scrimmages and games against the University of Houston, Baylor, and Wharton Junior College.

The Aggies begin their competition Friday night with scrimmages against Baylor (6 p.m.) and the University of Houston (8 p.m.).

Saturday morning the Ags will face Wharton Jr. College in a scrimmage at 8 a.m. before taking on Wharton (10 a.m.), Baylor (1 p.m.) and U. of H. (3 p.m.) in games which will count in the standings.

Members of this year's volleyball squad include Rita Kuntz (Sr.-Pasadena), JoAnn Nichols (Jr.-Galena Park), Ellen Morcom (Sr.-Houston), Vicki Marshall (Soph.-Beaumont), Trace

Chandler (Soph.-Midland), Bunge (Fresh.-Houston), Crim (Fresh.-Caldwell), Schoennagal (Fresh.-Humble), Laura Cobb (Jr.-East Texas), Diane Douglas (Soph.-Abilene), and Judy Bigon (Jr.-Temple).

Kuntz, Marshall, Chandler, Douglas, Alexander and Bigon be the Ags' starting lineup.

Tryouts for the women's intercollegiate basketball team will be Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the main floor of C. Rolfe Coliseum.

The workouts will be held weekday between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. and will run for weeks. Any women interested welcomed to come try out.


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